

20000430.qrp v01_n807.qrl.20000430

Date: Sun, 30 Apr 2000 19:03:07 EDT

From: qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU

To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>

Subject: QRP-L digest 1807

QRP-L Digest 1807

Topics covered in this issue include:

- 1) [69019] Re: K2 Main knob
by "Mike Yetsko" <myetsko@insydesw.com>
- 2) [69020] Tired power supply
by "John Nall" <nally@talstar.com>
- 3) [69021] Re: QRPTTF and a new NC-20!
by "John J. McDonough" <wb8rcr@arrl.net>
- 4) [69022] QRPTTF
by John Paul Dooley <w6zip@gte.net>
- 5) [69023] Re: 14V, D cells, SOLAR possible?
by S LYON <sslyon@worldnet.att.net>
- 6) [69024] QRPTTF-What a gift today was!
by S LYON <sslyon@worldnet.att.net>
- 7) [69025] AL7FS - QRP To The Field - April 2000
by Jim Larsen AL7FS <al7fs@pobox.alaska.net>
- 8) [69026] OPERATING - QRP-TTF aboard USS Kidd (long - sorry)
by n5ib@juno.com
- 9) [69027] QRPTTF - Much fun (long)
by Roger Hightower <n7kt@worldnet.att.net>
- 10) [69028] Redelivered Mail w/ Questions
by Atlee Kohl <Atlee@doubtless.com>
- 11) [69029] QRPTTF de NQ5RP Bevaer lake Arkansas
by Jim Hale <kj5tf@yahoo.com>
- 12) [69030] Re: My SMK-1 Soldering Iron
by "Ian C. Purdie VK2TIP" <ianpurdie@integritynet.com.au>
- 13) [69031] First Kit
by Ken Kirkley <ogbc@mindspring.com>
- 14) [69032] SMK-1 #86 in GA
by "Mike Branca" <w3irz@att.net>
- 15) [69033] QRPTTF Results
by "Ward Hill, N1IE" <w_hill@ns.net>
- 16) [69034] QRPTTF & new Emtech NW-40
by "M. Pender" <steam@megsinet.net>
- 17) [69035] KK6MC/5 and QRPTTF
by "James R. Duffey" <jamesd1@flash.net>
- 18) [69036] Re: INFO Request
by Steve Yates <aa5tb@yahoo.com>
- 19) [69037] Club: IAQRP Des Moines Hamfest Recap (Long)

- by "John Burnley" <burnleyia@home.com>
- 20) [69038] FS QRP RIG
by RangerSF5@aol.com
- 21) [69039] Re: First Kit
by "John J. McDonough" <wb8rcr@arrl.net>
- 22) [69040] SMK-1 #180 in Milan In. built!
by Randy & Cara Randall <crrandal@seidata.com>
- 23) [69041] 2n2/40
by "Mark Hogan" <mhogan@email.msn.com>
- 24) [69042] DK9SQ mast - was QRPTTF - Much fun (long)
by Jay Freeman <jayFreem@direcpc.com>
- 25) [69043] QRP TTF - Great Time
by K5KW@aol.com
- 26) [69044] QTTF: N6WG and WA6NAE
by "Bob Tellefsen" <n6wg@earthlink.net>
- 27) [69045] Re: QRP TTF - Great Time
by "K7FD-N7SG" <cqdx@teleport.com>
- 28) [69046] SMK-1 #360
by tailfeathers@juno.com
- 29) [69047] QRPTTF Nightmare: Solved Mystery
by "Joel Kluender, NF9K" <nf9k@eudoramail.com>
- 30) [69048] SELL: GHD chrome iambic paddles...
by Patrick Armstrong <aa7fg@gte.net>
- 31) [69049] SELL: OHR WM-2 QRP Watt Meter
by Patrick Armstrong <aa7fg@gte.net>
- 32) [69050] WANT: Tentec Argo II manual...
by Patrick Armstrong <aa7fg@gte.net>
- 33) [69051] QRPTTF
by "Floyd Smithberg" <flydnq7x@primenet.com>
- 34) [69052] QRPTTF: N7KE lake operation
by BenNW7DX@aol.com
- 35) [69053] QRPTTF: N7KE Final results (here's the actual numbers)
by BenNW7DX@aol.com
- 36) [69054] Re: DK9SQ mast - was QRPTTF - Much fun (long)
by "Michael Bower - N4NMR" <bowerm@ix.netcom.com>
- 37) [69055] Norcal 20 Improvements?
by wb2vuo@juno.com
- 38) [69056] IC-735 MODS TO QRP
by cx8at@adinet.com.uy
- 39) [69057] QRPTTF
by wd3p@juno.com
- 40) [69058] Test Message
by "Craig W. Behrens" <craigwb@hiwaay.net>
- 41) [69059] QRPTTF-Delaware Bay
by "John L. Sielke" <n4js@pobox.com>
- 42) [69060] QRPTTF: W7TA0
by Bruce Grubbs N7CEE <n7ceeqrp@earthlink.net>
- 43) [69061] QRPTTF Notes

- by Nick Kennedy <nkennedy@tcainternet.com>
- 44) [69062] Rochester, NH Hamfest
by Jim Lyons <lyons@canada.com>
- 45) [69063] Re: DK9SQ mast - was QRPTTF - Much fun (long)
by "Karl B. Staddon" <ve6kbs@agt.net>
- 46) [69064] QRPTTF 2000 - K4JSI
by SMurph555@aol.com
- 47) [69065] Re: DK9SQ mast - was QRPTTF - Much fun (long)
by Roger Hightower <n7kt@worldnet.att.net>
- 48) [69066] Re: DK9SQ mast - was QRPTTF - Much fun (long)
by Rod Johnson <ka7you@juno.com>
- 49) [69067] Small batteries & Solar power
by Jim Hale <kj5tf@yahoo.com>
- 50) [69068] Re: DK9SQ mast - was QRPTTF - Much fun (long)
by "Michael Bower - N4NMR" <bowerm@ix.netcom.com>
- 51) [69069] QRPTTF 2k W5ABQ NM WT
by jaywa5whn@juno.com
- 52) [69070] RE: Rochester, NH Hamfest
by "AI2Q Alex" <ai2q@ispchannel.com>
- 53) [69071] SMK-1:No receive
by Dan Benard <trackerdan@earthlink.net>
- 54) [69072] QTTF 40m Question
by "Bob Tellefsen" <n6wg@earthlink.net>
- 55) [69073] Re: SMK-1:No receive
by Dan Benard <trackerdan@earthlink.net>
- 56) [69074] QRPTTF - N8ET
by "Bill Kelsey - N8ET - Kanga US" <kanga@bright.net>
- 57) [69075] postpone
by k6mw <k6mw@jps.net>
- 58) [69076] 14V SMK-1 PS - More Info
by "KA5T Larry Wise" <lewise@inetport.com>
- 59) [69077] Re: Small batteries & Solar power
by "Ron Polityka" <wb3aal@talon.net>
- 60) [69078] Re: First Kit
by "Rod, N0RC" <n0rc@qsl.net>
- 61) [69079] information on DL8GEZ
by N10DL@aol.com
- 62) [69080] QRPTTF: Baywatch Report, AKA as KI6DS Report
by "Doug Hendricks" <ki6ds@hotmail.com>
- 63) [69081] Re: DK9SQ mast - was QRPTTF - Much fun (long)
by David Heintzleman <pstrdave@kdsi.net>
- 64) [69082] AA5B QRPTTF results
by BruceAA5B@aol.com
- 65) [69083] Re: Small batteries & Solar power
by "KW1ND Mike" <kw1nd@endlessenergy.com>
- 66) [69084] QTTF: WB3GCK/QRP/MM
by Craig LaBarge <wb3gck@yahoo.com>
- 67) [69085] QRPTTF - AE5X

- by John AE5X <ae5x@juno.com>
- 68) [69086] Re: QRPTTF: Baywatch Report, AKA as KI6DS Report
by "Ward Hill, N1IE" <w_hill@ns.net>
- 69) [69087] Reverse voltage/over voltage protection
by CHARLES K BROWN <n4so@juno.com>
- 70) [69088] QRPttF at W0RW
by W0rw@aol.com
- 71) [69089] QTTF 40 M Answer
by "James R. Duffey" <jamesd1@flash.net>
- 72) [69090] Ungar 9900 tips?
by "Michael Bower - N4NMR" <bowerm@ix.netcom.com>
- 73) [69091] NorCal 40A mods?
by "Michael Bower - N4NMR" <bowerm@ix.netcom.com>
- 74) [69092] Kits: Ft. Smith P-TiCK Picture
by "Doug Hendricks" <ki6ds@hotmail.com>
- 75) [69093] F/S ten tec
by K4NK@aol.com

Date: Sat, 29 Apr 2000 19:26:57 -0400
From: "Mike Yetsko" <myetsko@insydesw.com>
To: <n4xy@att.net>, "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [69019] Re: K2 Main knob
Message-ID: <003b01bfb232\$a78e6820\$620efea9@dads-hp>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

I haven't seen the Yaesu knob, so I'm not too sure about it. But while I really LOVE the K2 (I even threw it in the car today to go pick up my daughter and worked a few stations on 10M with a CB Mag mount) I DON'T like the knob. I don't think I want more weight. But I WOULD like a 'thumb detent' near the rim as a 'spinner'. I suppose I'd even like a secondary 'mini-knob', but then again... It's just that the existing knob is... well... it's just a 'knob'...

Mike

>When my email/URLs/OS went south, I also lost the reference to the Yaesu
>knob replacement. Two parts was it? Thanks.
>
>73 Ed Tanton <n4xy@arrl.net> K2# 0057 (FT)
>
>website: <http://www.qsl.net/n4xy/>

>
>

Date: Sat, 29 Apr 2000 19:36:48 -0400
From: "John Nally" <nally@talstar.com>
To: <qrp-1@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [69020] Tired power supply
Message-ID: <000b01bfb233\$cafe4180\$5ee9fea9@r6g4f3>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

To get my qrp rig on the air, I have dug out an old Alinco power supply which has been in storage for about 5 years! When I turn it on, the voltage reads fine (about 13 volts) but then, even as I watch in disbelief, the meter slowly, slowly goes down until the voltage drops to about 5 volts (and probably more -- the drop is not linear). Turn it off, unplug it, wait a few hours, and it will repeat that scene.

My intuition tells me "bad filter capacitor" but before tearing it out and replacing it (I have no way of checking to see if it is leaking) thought I would check with the collective wisdom of the mailing list.

John WB4LOQ (that call to change soon -- had it a long time, but time for something more jazzy :-)

Date: Sat, 29 Apr 2000 19:40:11 -0400
From: "John J. McDonough" <wb8rcr@arrl.net>
To: <wb2vuo@juno.com>, "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [69021] Re: QRPTTF and a new NC-20!
Message-ID: <017b01bfb234\$43dc0740\$010044c0@Conor.baycty1.mi.home.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

My (few) pix of QRPTTF with -my- new NC20 (well, a few weeks old), and it's new Milleneum Teal jacket are at <http://www.qsl.net/wb8rcr/QRPTTF.html>

72/73 de WB8RCR <http://members.home.com/wb8rcr/index.htm>
didileydadidah QRP-L #1446 Code Warriors #35

-----Original Message-----

From: wb2vuo@juno.com <wb2vuo@juno.com>
Subject: QRPTTF and a new NC-20!

>I just finished Steve, WS2F's NC-20 (at 2050Z this afternoon), and before
>heading out to a family function made 3 quick Q's with the rig, all of
>them for QRPTTF.

Date: Sat, 29 Apr 2000 17:06:40 -0700
From: John Paul Dooley <w6zip@gte.net>
To: QRP-L@Lehigh.EDU
Subject: [69022] QRPTTF
Message-ID: <390B790F.32BC3921@gte.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Worked a handfull of stations back east from Ca. This was my first
contest and I really had a blast. All those fists sure are fast though.
I had to ask everyone to QRS, but all of them complied and were very
patient with the exchange. Thanks to all who were patient with the
slow-pokes that I contacted or not. -73
John Paul Dooley W6ZIPVictorville, Ca.

Date: Sat, 29 Apr 2000 20:46:52 -0400
From: S LYON <sslyon@worldnet.att.net>
To: lewise@inetport.com
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [69023] Re: 14V, D cells, SOLAR possible?
Message-ID: <390B827C.DF491D06@worldnet.att.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Really glad to hear of your success, Larry. I ordered that twofer
special last week.
Has anyone thought about possibilities of running the EPS-1 & rigs off

those surplus 6V solar panels?

=s=

KA5T Larry Wise wrote:

>

> Hey Guys and Gals:

>

> Just built up the EPS-1 from Embedded Research that I bought

> from Gary when I was out at Pacificon in OCT.

> (Flushed from my recent conquering of the world of SM...:-))

>

> You may recall that this device, which has SM parts, takes an

> input voltage of 2-16VDC and puts out 12VDC at 500 ma at some

> good efficiency around 90% or so....

>

--

'Seab' Lyon - AA1MY

Beacon NY USA FN-31

QRP-L 574 ARCI 9253

Date: Sat, 29 Apr 2000 21:22:29 -0400

From: S LYON <sslyon@worldnet.att.net>

To: chat qrp <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>

Subject: [69024] QRPTTF-What a gift today was!

Message-ID: <390B8AD5.C7EBD3B@worldnet.att.net>

MIME-Version: 1.0

Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii

Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Forecast was definitely not encouraging for a stay on "Bald Mountain", so I opted for the local "clandestine" site across town. Had a nice time gabbing & demo-ing with curious locals and just plain taking it easy. As it turned out... PERFECT DAY ALL DAY.

40m was quiet so hung on 20m mostly. worked just over 70 Q's, and 30 S/P/C's. Again, with my DSW-20 and 40+ cranked all the way up to two watts the E.D.Z. antenna did a great job . I've got to find a way to swing one end to make it "rotatable", tho, as it's too directional to do well in the N-S directions. Would've done it with a kite -but no wind.

Anyone got a light-weight, lo-drain AGC thingie to put in series with the phones to handle those QRO sigs when you're straining for the weak ones?

--

NorCal's "QRP To The Field" Summary Sheet for AL7FS

Category code: H0

Rig(s): Kenwood TS450S Antenna(s): KLM KT34A @ 42 feet.

S/P/C TOTALS		QSO POINTS						
		Pts ea	MM (25)	OC (20)	WT (15)	FD (10)	H0 (5)	
40M	=	_____	40M =	_____	_____	_____	_____	
20M	=	__6__	20M =	__2__	__5__	_____	__1__	
15M	=	__5__	15M =	_____	__2__	_____	__4__	
10M	=	_____	10M =	_____	_____	_____	_____	
			TOTAL =	_____	__2__	__7__	__5__	

LOCATION MULTIPLIERS								
TOTAL =		__11__	(All SPCs per band)					
			MM = x5	___	OC = x4	___	WT = x3	___
			FD = x2	___	H0 = x1	__X__		

| |
|-----|-----|

FINAL SCORE = 175 X 11 X 1 = 1925 PTS
QSO Pts SPCs Loc

Comments: Very tough conditions today. I worked only 3 QSOs in the first 90 minutes starting 1800Z. During that 90 minutes I worked N9AW, WE6W (naturally) and N1IE. I could not reach N7KE, VE6QRP, and AD6A. After the QCWA luncheon I came back for more at 2200Z. Thank you to WD7Y(2 bands), K0EVZ, AE9K, W5YA, WA8ZBT, JG1RVN (off the back of the beam), WA6NAE, K7RE, KD6VIO and K5KW. I could not raise W9XU, W0CQC and K7TQ. Sorry Randy, I heard you call but could not find you when I moved up to your frequency (about 400-500 cycles up). I thought you had me and sent reports but to no avail.

It was fun in spite of it all. Thanks to everyone for being there.

I have followed all competition rules and all regulations for amateur radio in my country. My report is correct and true to the best of my knowledge. I agree to be bound by the decisions of the NorCal Contest Critter.

Date: 4/29/00 Signature: Jim Larsen Call: AL7FS

73, Jim

--

Jim Larsen, AL7FS <http://www.qsl.net/al7fs/>
Anchorage, Alaska <mailto:al7fs@pobox.alaska.net>
QRP ARCI #6754 Check out <http://www.qrparci.org/>

Date: Sat, 29 Apr 2000 21:28:17 EDT

From: n5ib@juno.com

To: RAllor@aol.com, k5lsu@aol.com, w5xu@aol.com, w5zdw@aol.com,
pcrawford@svmmac.vetmed.lsu.edu, w5xv@arrl.net, gordonwayn@aol.com,
kb5wga@eatel.net,

n5smq@aol.com, bobliz@mail.lig.bellsouth.net, eh1592425@aol.com,
w5ovv@juno.com, n5ib@juno.com, pharoah2@bellsouth.net, qrp-l@Lehigh.edu

Subject: [69026] OPERATING - QRP-TTF aboard USS Kidd (long - sorry)

Message-ID: <20000429.202557.4655.0.N5IB@juno.com>

Hello USS Kidd crew and QRP-L'ers

We had a great time aboard the Kidd today as W5KID/QRP/MM. Principal QRP operators were John (K5JS) and me (N5IB). Wayne Gordon and Everett Hurley were also aboard operating the regular station looking for submarines in the Silent Service anniversary event. Several other hams popped in as part of touring groups aboard.

We set up the QRP station on the flying bridge, high above the muddy waters of the Mississippi. The weather was clear, sunny, warm, with a fresh breeze. On the other side of the levee the March of Dimes Walkathon was going on. What a great location for the rig. Even had some shade from the gun director. Used the plotting table as the operating position. Great view across the river - tugs, barge tows, paddlewheel gambling boats, the I-10 bridge over Ole Man River.

Antenna was a sloping doublet from the main mast to the bow, center fed with 450 ohm window line tuned with an MFJ-971. Power was a 2.2 A-Hr gel cell charging from a solar panel (see the April QRP-Q for details of the panel and charge "controller"). For rigs we had a pretty vast array from John's and my collections: DSW40's, DSW20, GM20, GM15, NW20, RH40 (talk about bad timing - John broke his arm after starting his K2 - and hasn't yet finished it - and mine hasn't snuck out of Elecraft yet) All the rigs performed flawlessly. GM-15 bagged 4 new states , and a sub --- thanks Tom :^)

The antenna as first erected wouldn't tune up on 20 m. We had just strung up as much wire as would fit and must have "lucked into" a taboo length. So operation started on 40 then moved to 15. After a few Q's on 15 we hacked about 6 ft from each end of the doublet and it tuned up fine on 20, where we stayed the rest of the day. I'm going to model the original cut with NEC-Win Basic to see what it was.

We ran a real true QRP-style contest operation - make a QSO - spend five or ten minutes talking about how great that contact was - get a drink - make another QSO - and so on. Managed to put about three dozen in the log before we packed up shop for the day (The Kidd closes at 2200 Z) Highlights were N2SE aboard the USS Ling, Doc, Dr. Megacycle, NQ4RP, W0CQC among many others. Only worked 4 other /mm stations, but lots of WT and a few OC.

The ssb QRO guys also bagged subs - U-505, HA-16, and the Grayling Memorial. But the first one was ferreted out by QRP.

Score?? Well, I'll figure it out later. This was so much fun it had to have been illegal! Simply can't wait 'till the next event. I'll post some pics on my web page <<http://www.qsl.net/n5ib>> first of next week.

Jim N5IB

Date: Sun, 30 Apr 2000 18:36:27 -0700
From: Roger Hightower <n7kt@worldnet.att.net>
To: QRP-L <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [69027] QRPTTF - Much fun (long)
Message-ID: <390CDF9B.A0CDE6ED@worldnet.att.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Just back from Lake Pleasant, AZ where K7RE, NK7M and I took a shot at QRPTTF as WT stations.

Band conditions weren't the best...10M never did seem to open for us. I had fair luck on 15 and 20, though, and got a chance to wring out a new antenna setup. We also tried out the K2's in close proximity, and tested the effectiveness of the I.C.E. bandpass filters.

The filters are great. NK7M and I were only about 30 yds apart (he was behind me), and I couldn't hear a whisper as he operated on 10M and I was on 15. Same for 15 & 20M. Those filters really cut the nearby signals out. They're pricey, but since we heard such good reports from K7RE about the C6A operation with N4BP, we thought we'd try it. Just the ticket for multiple stations in close proximity.

The k2's performed exceptionally well, in 90 degree or better temps. This is a great rig to use in the field, as every control/function is simple to get to. Can't say much more.

I also set up a DK9SQ Mast and his Loop antenna for the first time, to see how that would work. We all used one of the Masts, and found that no matter how hard you twist and pull to secure the sections, they will eventually collapse. We experienced high winds, and I'm sure it's because the masts flexed in the wind and the friction fit of the joints broke down. It's disconcerting to hear a rippling sound as your mast collapses section by section. A little electrical tape wrapping around each joint kept it up from that point on.

The loop antenna worked very well, and the KAT-2 tuner matched it up at least to 1.2-1 or better on every band. That tuner is worth it's weight in gold! At abt \$85.00, the loop antenna is a good buy to use with the 33' mast, but we found that the plastic box that holds the balun and SO-239 won't withstand a mast collapse. NK7M's balun box was virtually destroyed when his mast came down, and mine lost a big chunk when it happened to me. We saw that the plastic was very brittle, and may just

move the innards to a good old U.S. made PVC junction box.

We had a great time. Great view of the lake, and I'll bet we saw more bikinis than KI6DS did...no pictures, though :-).

The first hour of the 'test, I didn't get much but stations East of the Mississippi. Next two hours, MO, TX, OK started coming in, and then CA and HI. Never heard Jim in Alaska, and only one CO station. Seemed like the bands were long for most of the day.

Lots of people doing the hunt and pounce thing. I had pretty good luck calling CQ, but when it fizzled, then I'd hunt and pounce for a while. We need more folks calling CQ Contest. There were a number of stations I'd like to have in the log, but they were H&P'ing, and I couldn't catch them.

I'm not sure about the other two, since I left early, but my raw score shows 37 Q's and 39,060 points. Prop wasn't too good, and condx were tough. Sitting on a concrete bench for 5 hours ain't much fun, either, :-). Had a tough time getting up and moving around at the end of it.

Great contest, as usual. It's cool making Q's with folks you know from the List, and people were generally pretty well behaved. Let's do it again in September for QRP Afield. This is QRP at it's best.

--

72.....Roger

Roger Hightower, N7KT Mesa, AZ K2#591 SOC #14

Date: Sat, 29 Apr 2000 20:47:36 -0500
From: Atlee Kohl <Atlee@doubtless.com>
To: qrp-1@lehigh.EDU
Subject: [69028] Redelivered Mail w/ Questions
Message-ID: <390B90B9.74C0C3A9@doubtless.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

----- Original Message -----

Subject: Undeliverable Mail
Date: Fri, 28 Apr 2000 22:28:33 -0400
From: "Postmaster" <postmaster@imail6.digiweb.com>
To: <Atlee@doubtless.com>

Unknown user: qrp-1@lehigh.EDU

Original message follows.

Received: from doubtless.com [4.33.79.154] by imail6.digiweb.com with ESMTP
(SMTPD32-6.00) id A8CA82E3013C; Fri, 28 Apr 2000 22:28:26 -0400
Message-ID: <390A47B2.E0CCCCBA@doubtless.com>
Date: Fri, 28 Apr 2000 21:23:46 -0500
From: Atlee Kohl <Atlee@doubtless.com>
Reply-To: Atlee@doubtless.com
Organization: Woodland Investment Company
X-Mailer: Mozilla 4.7C-CCK-MCD {C-UDP; EBM-APPLE} (Macintosh; I; PPC)
X-Accept-Language: en
MIME-Version: 1.0
To: qrp-1@lehigh.EDU
Subject: Re: Two Simple Questions
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii; x-mac-type="54455854"; x-mac-creator="4D4F5353"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Q for those with experience on this board from one who joined 24 hours ago:

- 1.) What is QRPTTF? --Some sort of low power contest or test?
- 2.) What is a SMK-1 and why are so many hams talking about it?

--Some

kind of popular new kit?

73, Atlee North Texas 5 Watts

Date: Sat, 29 Apr 2000 18:59:26 -0700 (PDT)
From: Jim Hale <kj5tf@yahoo.com>
To: QRP-L <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [69029] QRPTTF de NQ5RP Bevaer lake Arkansas
Message-ID: <20000430015926.6651.qmail@web705.mail.yahoo.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii

A total of 31 contacts today while anchored in Beaver lake Arkansas. I got mixed up and gave WT, then changed to MM. I had the rule sheet with me and tried to read it in all that strong sun... I think the sun got to me.

Worked ND & SD, that was cool. Plus worked KC0DX who was also on Beaver lake, Arkansas! Wow, thats 20M close in!

My equipment is K2 SN702 Hamstick, and one radial wire.

My power was 700mW. Got the picture so that makes it MM
if you worked me today. Even if I told you WT, sorry.

72's de Jim KJ5TF Tr. NQ5RP
"All milliwatts, All the time"

=====

<http://www.madisoncounty.net/~kj5tf/>
Milliwattting Editor ARCI QRP Quarterly
Join/renew membership QRP Amateur Radio Club International
<http://www.qrparci.org/arcijoin.html>
AR QRP#2 - Kingston, Arkansas 35.94N 93.47W
Private email kj5tf@madisoncounty.net

Do You Yahoo!?
Talk to your friends online and get email alerts with Yahoo! Messenger.
<http://im.yahoo.com/>

Date: Sun, 30 Apr 2000 12:11:20 +1000
From: "Ian C. Purdie VK2TIP" <ianpurdie@integritynet.com.au>
To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [69030] Re: My SMK-1 Soldering Iron
Message-ID: <390B9648.1B9B3905@integritynet.com.au>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

"James P. Osburn, P.E." wrote:

> Here's a picture of the soldering iron I'm using to assemble my SMK-1.
> <http://www.indiana.net/~wd9eyb/bertha.jpg>
>

Ah soo! You are one who stole my Plumbers electric iron. Wondered where it went to. Yes a good high wattage iron does have its applications in rare instances where homeowner (not to mention yourself) are terrified of burning house down.

72/73's

Ian Purdie Budgewoi N.S.W. Australia - Co-ords 33o:14' S 151o:34' E
My FREE Newsletter:- <mailto:vk2tip@qsl.net?Subject=Subscribe>
VK2TIP "I'll give ya the TIP mate" QRP-L #1978. SOC #171 "duh?"
URL - <http://www.integritynet.com.au/~purdic/>

Date: Sat, 29 Apr 2000 22:15:00 -0400
From: Ken Kirkley <ogbc@mindspring.com>
To: qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU
Subject: [69031] First Kit
Message-ID: <390B9724.960B1E66@mindspring.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Hi All,
I would like some suggestions on an easy to build first QRP kit. I have been reading up on QRP for awhile and would love to try it, but am not sure which kit to go with. Don't want to invest a bundle. Am only mediocre with a soldering iron at present.

Thanks for any input.

73, Ken/K4KGK

Date: Sat, 29 Apr 2000 20:20:10 -0500
From: "Mike Branca" <w3irz@att.net>
To: "QRP-L" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [69032] SMK-1 #86 in GA
Message-ID: <00c201bfb249\$f90256a0\$ec364d0c@default>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

The following three postings on the NoGa list on Thursday 4-27 are repeated here for common interest. Mike Branca W3IRZ Conyers, GA

One SMK-1 # 86 completed. Construction only not tested.
Time: bag 1 at 1 hr 13 min
bag 2 at 1 hr 27 min

bag 3 at	40 min
total	3 hr 20 min

Before you start first remove the staple from the manual then take page 4 and combine it with the parts list by copying the part symbol (R3 etc) onto the bag chart. For example take item 34; 1 x 22k and write R1 in the box. This will save immeasurable time that you would have spent shuffling the two sheets. Next clean the house because you will spend some time on the floor looking for the LBT's (little bitty things). Do not do it in the workshop. My kitchen has a white vinyl floor and the two LBT's that took off were easy to find. The third part that wandered was found underneath my solder stand after a few minutes. I opened the bags with scissors and also used the scissors to cut the bottom plastic LBT holders so the part

could easily come out. For tweezers I used a 3 inch aluminum clip-on heatsink that was made by exacto but there is a set of self closing tweezers by

Xcelite in the RS.com catalog. I held the board in a PandaVise. My glasses were not much help so I didn't use them but I kept the magnifier close by. I think that the most difficult parts to handle were the transistors.

I used the solder sucker a couple of times when I bridged the IC pins; you have to brace your arms and hands when soldering the IC's. The shake in my hands is greater than the pin spacing.

Mike W3IRZ

OK did the test. Nothing - - oops I switched the battery and ground leads as red into the ground hole and black into the B+ hole. Thats a first for me. Not to worry because the designer was smart enough to put a protective diode on the board. RX only hears BC but no CW but TX has 200 mw OK. Looks like RX crystal not operative; checked for about 10 minutes with

voltmeter. Voltage on U1(SA-612) pin 7 but none on C5 hmmm. Looks like when I used the solder sucker I sucked it off pin 7. Resolder pin 7 all ok now hear CW, peak trimmers. I will hook a real antenna up after this msg.

Mike W3IRZ

OK all, made my first contact tonite with my SMT-1 to N4XNR Hal in Huntsville, TN. We exchanged 559 reports. On the map it is 200 miles and with 200 mw thats 1000 miles per watt. It had adequate volume even for my old damaged ears using the cheap Koss open design (no foam ball) headset. Actually I had to keep the volume down (about 90 degrees) because there was a threshold below which the BC stations did not come in and above which they (BC) were loud enough to be painful. I tried a parallel tuned tuner in place of the LDG "L" network and it seemed a little better. I guess that the two extra bias resistors on the SA-612 really picked up the gain a lot. Well now that I've made a contact I can start with the mods.

Mike W3IRZ

Date: Sat, 29 Apr 2000 19:17:08 -0700
From: "Ward Hill, N1IE" <w_hill@ns.net>
To: "QRP-L" <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [69033] QRPTTF Results
Message-ID: <000d01bfb24a\$30e1ed60\$4c0f9fcf@0zpu5>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Here is the quick and dirty results.

52 total Qs. 13 on 40. 18 on 20. 12 on 15. 9 on 10.
29 total SPCs.
705 QSO Points.
Location (WT) X3
Total points 61,335

The K2 is TOTALLY amazing!!!! It makes me a better op. Thanks Eric and Wayne!

72,

Ward Hill, N1IE

Date: Sat, 29 Apr 2000 21:56:48 -0500
From: "M. Pender" <steam@megsinet.net>
To: "QRP-L discussion list" <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [69034] QRPttf & new Emtech NW-40
Message-ID: <003101bfb24f\$bb347140\$60ccd6d8@megsinet.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: quoted-printable

Well, I finished putting the NW in the case yesterday, final tuned everything, and even made a Q just to make sure I'd be ready for today's contest.

I was kinda disappointed to find 40 meters in rather dismal shape. Very quiet with deep qsb.=20

I had a total of Ten Q's/Five states from my western Chicago qth. Not great, but not horrible considering the band. I got a response from everybody I called, so something's working right. Got frustrating scanning the band only to hear the same stations all day.

The Canadians kinda took over toward the latter half of it with = another contest. (real fast fists)

Rig was the Emtech NW-40, 5w, to an 80 meter dipole up 25 ft. (I still have to post the final installment of the building of this=20 excellent radio. To be posted shortly.)

<>< ><> ><> <>< ><> <>< ><> <>< ><> ><
Mike Pender Chicago N9IV0
steam@corecomm.net http://www.corecomm.net/~steam =20
><< <>< <>< ><< <>< ><< ><< <>< ><< >

Date: Sat, 29 Apr 2000 21:00:07 -0600
From: "James R. Duffey" <jamesd1@flash.net>
To: "qrp-1" <qrp-1@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [69035] KK6MC/5 and QRPTTF
Message-ID: <200004300300.WAA11424@chupacabras.flash.net>
Mime-version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset="US-ASCII"
Content-transfer-encoding: 7bit

All - I just got back from the Rio Grand Gorge and my Portable QRPTTF (WT) operation. I had a great time and the bands cooperated (with the exception of 10 M). I worked some DX to boot!

Here are the preliminary results:

89 QSOs, with 32 unique states/provinces and 2 DX

Qs By Band:

40 M	6
20 M	42
15 M	36
10 M	5

DX worked F5 (France), AL0HA (on 15 and 10!), WL7, and JR0 (Japan!)

All in all a good contest. My rate is about what it usually is for portable operations (or a little higher) so it appears that conditions were good. 10M was not too productive, but I think that was as much due to lack of activity as to mediocre propagation.

I worked the 6 hours from 1620 to 2220. This is mid morning through afternoon here so D-layer absorption is high and I work mostly locals. If I had started later and worked later, or started earlier, I would have probably had better luck on 40 M.

The French station was in another contest I think as he sent a weird exchange, and the WL7 was not in the contest, but gave me a contact anyway. The WL7 was on 10 M and he had as nice a signal as I have ever heard from AK in a portable operation (sorry Jim!). The JR0 was a struggle, but worth it. I have never worked Japan from a portable operation before.

I think I worked all of the bunch at Ocean Beach including newcomers Frankie and Annette. I worked the Socorro Tag team N0QT and NA5N. Lots of MMs and OCs. It was nice to work Dave NF0R after meeting him in person. I furiously tried to put names and faces to the many 5 calls I heard from Arkansas. Were they all at Ft. Smith??

I left home at 0600 as it is a 3 hour drive to my operating spot. The drive is beautiful, no interstate, and goes through many sites of historical and scenic importance. When I started setting up I realized that I had left or lost my 30 ft section of feedline so I could not set up my antenna where I planned, but had to move about 20 ft back from the edge of the gorge. Every thing else went fine, except after an hour on the picnic table I wished I had brought a cushion.. The weather was warm, about 70 F. The wind started blowing after the second QSO. It was very strong at times and I lost my 40 M and 10 M dupe sheets. Yet another argument for computer logging.

I set up in a nice picnic shelter so I had some shelter from the wind. The rest area is fairly busy with lots of people stopping to take pictures of the gorge or hike the trails. It is a good operating site, but if seclusion is what you want it is not the place to be.

I took down and returned home, stopping to eat at Taos. I recalled driving home from the 4 corners after QRPTTF 1998. Gary, Jay and I drove through a blizzard over the continental divide that evening!

Now to figure out all the multiplier points. See you all later. -
KK6MC/5 Dr. Megacycle

James R. Duffey KK6MC/5
30 Casa Loma Road
Cedar Crest, NM 87008

Date: Sat, 29 Apr 2000 20:03:59 -0700 (PDT)
From: Steve Yates <aa5tb@yahoo.com>
To: w4du@bellsouth.net, Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [69036] Re: INFO Request
Message-ID: <20000430030359.5480.qmail@web3003.mail.yahoo.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii

Ken,

One option for Larry is a small transmitting loop
(magnetic loop) antenna. I've used this type of
antenna with great success and have since them on at
least one Coast Guard ship. I have information on the
following Web page:

<http://www.geocities.com/aa5tb/loop.html>

You don't want to put a small loop right next to
ferrous metal though although I have seen them on
ships and military vehicles.

=====

73,
Steve Yates - AA5TB
Fort Worth, TX - EM12gs
<http://www.geocities.com/aa5tb>
aa5tb@yahoo.com

Do You Yahoo!?
Talk to your friends online and get email alerts with Yahoo! Messenger.
<http://im.yahoo.com/>

Date: Sat, 29 Apr 2000 22:04:04 -0500

From: "John Burnley" <burnleyia@home.com>
To: <IaQRP-L@divis17.ped-gen.uiowa.edu>
Cc: <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [69037] Club: IAQRP Des Moines Hamfest Recap (Long)
Message-ID: <000901bfb250\$be654960\$1b790818@c149552-a.west1.ia.home.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

"QRP revived my interest in the hobby. It has rekindled my enthusiasm for amateur radio and introduced me to building. I have been reminded of my early days in ham radio (when I was first licensed at the age of 12); reminded of the camaraderie between hams and the joy of operating a rig built with your own hands". Am I on a soapbox? You bet! But this is my story and from the many conversations at the Des Moines Hamfest today it is shared by others!

The Iowa QRP Club had a display table at the Des Moines Hamfest today. We visited with many old friends and met many new ones. But most importantly we had the opportunity to spread the good word about low power operating and share the 'Joy Of QRP' with others.

My thanks to Larry Stambaugh WB0RMT and Darrel Swenson KB0AWB who helped run the table and brought many goodies for show-n-tell. Larry brought his NorCal NC-20, ZM-2, circuit board paddles (modeled from the NorCal webpage) and his SWL DSW-40. Larry is an FB builder and designer of the CSS receiver (an upcoming IAQRP project) which was also on display. Darrel drove all the way from Omaha to share his newly completed NorCal SMK-1, Ft. Smith Paddle/Keyer Kit, Tick Keyer Kit, TT2, MJF CUB, and KK5PY paddles (a very FB accessory). Also on display was an MFJ 9017, OHR Explorer II, Super Tick Keyer, Pixie II, Knightsmite, NorCal 38 Special, ZM-1 (with AZscQRPion SWR LED indicator), NJQRP FB40 Transmitter, and Ten Tec 6 Meter Receiving Converter. If anything was omitted my apologies in advance.

The Club also had information available from Small Wonder Labs, Milestone Technologies, Kanga US, and Embedded Research. Our thanks to those vendors who supplied us with information to hand out. The display also included newsletters from the St. Louis QRP Society (Peanut Whistle), QRP ARCI (QRP Quarterly), NorCal (QRPP), G-QRP (SPRAT), CW Operators Club (Lo-Key), Japan QRP Club, and NJQRP's QRP Homebrewer. Paul Harden's Data Book For QRP'ers and Homebrewers, The Joy Of QRP by

Ade Weiss, and History of QRP by Ade Weiss were also on proud display along with NorCal's Elmer 101 issue of QRPp and the 2N2/40 issue of QRPp.

Congratulations to Alan Trainer KG0TS from West Des Moines, IA who won a Tick Keyer Kit along with an Enclosure kit. The doorprize was donated by Embedded Research and many thanks to Gary and Brad from ER for the generous donation!

The display tables are always a lot of fun but the highlight of the day occurred when a gentlemen from Ames, Iowa introduced us to two young boys who just successfully passed their technician license. These two youngsters immediately received their own St. Louis Audio Amp kit with the promise of another different kit when they complete this one. The boys were scoping out all the goodies on the table so I think these two may be melting some solder soon (and I think I'd better start shopping.....hmmmm any of those catalogs left hi).

It was a very fun day indeed (although I did miss QRPTTF) and again my thanks to Larry and Darrel. Our next event will be the Sioux City Hamboree on June 3 - June 4, 2000. I hope to CU there!

72, John NU0V

Date: Sat, 29 Apr 2000 23:09:38 EDT
From: RangerSF5@aol.com
To: QRP-L@lehigh.edu
Subject: [69038] FS QRP RIG
Message-ID: <64.23b24cc.263cfd2@aol.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="US-ASCII"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Hi Gang,
I have a NW-40-M for sale.
The rig has had a good going over with lab type gear.
I also removed and rewound the cores.
Has the CW filter and the VBT.
The rig is very sensitive and selective when using the VBT. After adjusting the power I kicked it down to a solid 5 watts into a dummy load.
The audio will drive a 4" speaker with no problem..
Comes built in the Emtech case.
PRICE: \$100.00 shipped
Bob
WA2HOQrp <tm>

Date: Sat, 29 Apr 2000 23:18:16 -0400
From: "John J. McDonough" <wb8rcr@arrl.net>
To: <ogbc@mindspring.com>, "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [69039] Re: First Kit
Message-ID: <001001bfb252\$bbc9f320\$010044c0@Conor.baycty1.mi.home.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

I would start with a Pixie. For around \$13 at HSC including the 7.040 crystal, you get a very simple radio. OK, it's not all that much of a radio, but you get a low cost way to build your confidence. Another fun choice is the Fireball 40 and the matching receiver from NJQRP. Again, pretty low performance but also low cost. One of the nice things about the FB-40 is that there are a number of optional add ons you can collect parts for, and it gives you an opportunity to play a bit.

There are pictures of both the Pixie and the FB40 on my web site below.

72/73 de WB8RCR <http://members.home.com/wb8rcr/index.htm>
didileydadidah QRP-L #1446 Code Warriors #35

-----Original Message-----

From: Ken Kirkley <ogbc@mindspring.com>
To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Date: Saturday, April 29, 2000 10:16 PM
Subject: First Kit

>Hi All,
>I would like some suggestions on an easy to build first QRP kit. I have
>been reading up on QRP for awhile and would love to try it, but am not
>sure which kit to go with. Don't want to invest a bundle. Am only
>mediocre with a soldering iron at present.
>
>Thanks for any input.
>
>73, Ken/K4KGK
>

Date: Sat, 29 Apr 2000 22:21:22 -0500
From: Randy & Cara Randall <crrandal@seidata.com>
To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [69040] SMK-1 #180 in Milan In. built!
Message-ID: <390BA6B2.1DFDDDD0@seidata.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Mine arrived in the mail yesterday evening and I attacked it this afternoon. My trusty Hexacon soldering station got the job done with the 1/16" tip attached. It took 3.5 hours to complete and only two times did the parts JUMP away. I am pleased with the results so far. I am waiting for the enclosure kit to arrive and I will then check it for smoke. The hardest part was soldering those SMD transistors. What tiny leads they have! If you have some flux cleaning spray use it. It makes the kit look so much better to get rid of the flux. I am already showing it off to the family members.

What is next? Soldering iron is hot!

Randy KB8AS0 Milan, In.

Date: Sat, 29 Apr 2000 22:40:58 -0500
From: "Mark Hogan" <mhogan@email.msn.com>
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [69041] 2n2/40
Message-ID: <002601bfb255\$e6c99c80\$71d8193f@compaq>

Are there any boards around?
I think I may want to try my hand at one of these.
Anyone amass the parts and loose interest?
Just putting out the initial feelers...

My SST is great but I'd like more coverage on 40.

Mark Hogan / N50BC
SST-40 / 38s - Speed-X Bug NC-20 - Norcal Paddle
Bet ya never heard a bug go so slow.....
oh yea... SOC 185

Date: Sat, 29 Apr 2000 23:01:47 -0500
From: Jay Freeman <jayFreem@direcpc.com>
To: n7kt@worldnet.att.net
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [69042] DK9SQ mast - was QRPTTF - Much fun (long)
Message-ID: <390BB02B.CD89C7C@direcpc.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Hi Roger,

Roger Hightower wrote:

> I also set up a DK9SQ Mast and his Loop antenna for the first time, to
> see how that would work. We all used one of the Masts, and found that
> no matter how hard you twist and pull to secure the sections, they will
> eventually collapse. We experienced high winds, and I'm sure it's
> because the masts flexed in the wind and the friction fit of the joints
> broke down. It's disconcerting to hear a rippling sound as your mast
> collapses section by section. A little electrical tape wrapping around
> each joint kept it up from that point on.

I've never had this problem, but I've always set it up with just an inverted
vee. The weight of the antenna and the slight tension of the guy lines at
the end of the wires cause the skinny tip to bow over, all the way to
slightly past horizontal. I guess that keeps enough tension on the joints
that they stick together. I have had the wind pull my antenna off the tip
though, which is a bit of a surprise when it happens :). I'm going to get a
fly rod tip and glue it on, I think.

73,

Jay

--

* Jay Freeman - WT9S ARRL *
* G-QRP 10319 QRP-ARCI 9981 ARS 562 *
* SASS #18700 NRA Life *

Date: Sun, 30 Apr 2000 00:08:41 EDT
From: K5KW@aol.com
To: qrp-1@lehigh.edu
Subject: [69043] QRP TTF - Great Time
Message-ID: <d.433fd99.263d0bc9@aol.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="US-ASCII"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Expected guests called and cancelled at the last minute, allowing me the time to operate the prescribed six hours in the contest but leaving no time for field setup. Was forced to operate in the H0 category, but still had a *great* time!

Ten meters was virtually dead here around the QRP frequency during the entire day. As Paul (NA5N) predicted, 15 meters was fair and 20 meters was. Forty meters was too noisy, and heard only a few stations there so didn't try 40. My strategy was simply to work two hours on, then one hour off and one hour on for the duration.

Logged 145 contacts total, all on 20 and 15 meters. Will do the calculations tomorrow.

Many highlights; including a contact with the U.S.S Kidd, (W5KID) and with Jim, AL7FS, up where Murphy apparently has taken up residence, and the Aloha station, AL0HA. It was nice hearing and contacting so many folks whose calls I recognized as among those who work so diligently to promote our hobby including NA5N, AD6A, K1MG, KK6MC/5 (Dr. Megacycle himself from high above the river), WE6W, and K0EVZ. I'm sure there were many others who have contributed a great deal to the hobby whose calls I didn't recognize. Never heard KI6DS; I wonder if his hand was too unsteady to operate the key as a result of watching the Bikini Babes?

Thanks to all whom I worked in the contest. QRP TTF just keeps getting better. I wonder what next year's theme will be?

72,

Don, K5KW

"From Meadowlark Aerodrome on the rippling shores of Lake Eva, in the heart of the Morris-Boynton metroplex of east central Oklahoma, where every day is a sunny day".

Date: Sat, 29 Apr 2000 21:18:28 -0700
From: "Bob Tellefsen" <n6wg@earthlink.net>
To: <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [69044] QTTF: N6WG and WA6NAE
Message-ID: <01bfb25b\$22e84a40\$19dbfc9e@ham.earthlink.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

We had a fun day, inspite of band conditions not being as hot as we expected from Paul Harden's posts :-). Our weather overlooking SF Bay was really clear and crisp, really great day to be in the outdoors.

Dwight WA6NAE worked 20m with Dave W7AMX using the Red Hot 20, while I worked 40m using my K2. They used a 20m half-square, and I used an EDZ.

Boy, did I pull the short straw. 40m was really sleepy. I managed to pull out 43 QSOs, but almost half were HO stations (20 HO, 5 FD, 12 WT, 5 OC and 1 MM). Also, only managed 8 S/P/C. Shucks, I did better than that on 160m QRP during the 160m contest.

Dwight and Dave totally skunked me with their 41,280 points to my 14,560. In a word, 40m was disappointing. At least there was time to visit with friends during the day.

Hope everyone had a fun time, whether productive or not.

72, Bob N6WG
Newark, CA on SF Bay

Date: Sat, 29 Apr 2000 21:12:41 -0700
From: "K7FD-N7SG" <cqdx@teleport.com>
To: <K5KW@aol.com>, "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [69045] Re: QRP TTF - Great Time
Message-ID: <006c01bfb25a\$5548d320\$59231ad8@default>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

>Thanks to all whom I worked in the contest. QRP TTF
>just keeps getting better. I wonder what next year's theme
>will be?
>
>72,
>
>Don, K5KW

Judging by the number of K2's I heard, it might be 'Wayne's World'... ;)

73 John K7FD

Date: Sun, 30 Apr 2000 00:12:57 -0400
From: tailfeathers@juno.com
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Subject: [69046] SMK-1 #360
Message-ID: <20000430.001608.-3955623.1.tailfeathers@juno.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Well its midnight and I just copied wd5cnc on my SMK-1. The dag gone thing works. I say that due to it being my first attempt at building anything. I don't have all the parts yet but has anyone received their enclosure from NJQRP yet?. The foreign broadcast stations were really coming in. I couldn't get any peak on tc1 until I turned it up and then it was there. Very cool! This could get addictive.....
73 gary

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Juno now offers FREE Internet Access!
Try it today - there's no risk! For your FREE software, visit:
<http://dl.www.juno.com/get/tagj>.

Date: Sat, 29 Apr 2000 23:17:29 -0500
From: "Joel Kluender, NF9K" <nf9k@eudoramail.com>
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Cc: k0pc@tcrc.org
Subject: [69047] QRPTTF Nightmare: Solved Mystery
Message-ID: <BGJHODDHGPGKBAAA@shared1-mail.whowhere.com>
Mime-Version: 1.0

Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Language: en
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

All,

I was not going to be able to go to bed without understanding why smoke was let out of the borrowed LDG Autotuner when I was sure I hooked up the power with the correct polarity. As the father of two children who are addicted to "Blue's Clues", I put on my "thinking cap" and started hunting for pawprints. (If you get that reference, you have identified yourself as a parent of toddlers. If you did not, feel privileged!)

Clues discovered:

(1) My radios appeared to be all OK. IC740, DSW-20 and OHR-400 all seemed fine despite having been powered up on the boat. Only the autotuner appeared to have "smoked".

(2) There are two deep cycle batteries on board. Battery "A" was being used to power the autotuner. Battery "B" was being used to power the rigs.

(3) Only the negative lead of the line to the autotuner appeared to have suffered meltdown. The positive lead is OK.

(4) No components in the autotuner appeared to have "poofed" when the innards were inspected. Visually and odoriferously, the components seemed OK. Only a small portion of the ground trace on the board appeared damaged.

Having discovered these clues, I begun to smell "something fishy going on here" (my 4 year old son's favorite phrase). I pulled out the "handy dandy multimeter" and started measuring voltages in the boat. Voila! Mystery solved:

(1) Battery "B", the rig battery, was "floating". I.e., it neither in parallel, nor in series, with the other battery, not was either terminal shorted to the boat's aluminum hull. So far, no problems. However....

(2) Battery "A", the autotuner battery, was wired so that the positive terminal was shorted to the aluminum hull! This doesn't seem like good practice to me but I suppose its not a problem typically. UNLESS, as I did, you also are shorting the ground shield of your coax to the hull of the boat!!! In other words, beaucoup current was flowing through the following path:

from positive battery terminal
through the aluminum hull of the boat
through the shield of the antenna coax
into the autotuner antenna ground terminal
from antenna ground to DC ground via shortest path on the tuner's circuit board

through the negative power lead of the autotuner
to the negative battery terminal!!!!

If you look at line 1 and line 2 of the previous paragraph I believe that the problem becomes apparent, nicht wahr?

So the moral of this story is:

- (1) Don't assume you know how boats "should" be wired
- (2) Even if you know how they "should" be wired, don't assume that they are done that way
- (3) Always fuse every line, no matter what. You may have a problem because of someone else's stupidity, even if you do your part right.

Having figured this problem out it occurred to me that the tuner might still work when hooked up to a "floating" battery. Just to be safe, I used a standalone gelcell a 1A fused line, to limit any further damage if I was wrong. And amazingly (though not surprisingly) the tuner did work and the fuse didn't blow!

Someone please tell me - Is this a normal way to wire up a boat??? I just bought this boat used last weekend and have never owned a boat before so I don't know.

At least I understand it now and won't make the same mistake twice. I thank the Lord that I chose to hook up a ~ autotuner to the "A" battery and NOT my DSW-20, IC-740 and/or OHR-400. I would have really cried mightily had I fried those guys. These rigs must have guardian angels.

73/72,

Joel NF9K

Joel Kluender, NF9K

870 Prairie Street S.

Shakopee, MN 55379

Great is the Lord, and worthy of praise!

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<http://www.eudoramail.com>

Date: Sat, 29 Apr 2000 21:40:49 -0700

From: Patrick Armstrong <aa7fg@gte.net>

To: qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU

Subject: [69048] SELL: GHD chrome iambic paddles...

Message-ID: <390BB951.36D94949@gte.net>

MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

FS: GHD GH-GN305 mechanical contact dual paddle (iambic) with chrome finish offered in "as new" condition. Please see <http://www.mtechnologies.com/ghd/> for details on these beautiful paddles... Paid \$200, sell \$150 OBO...

Pat, AA7FG - Oregon...

Date: Sat, 29 Apr 2000 21:52:23 -0700
From: Patrick Armstrong <aa7fg@gte.net>
To: qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU
Subject: [69049] SELL: OHR WM-2 QRP Watt Meter
Message-ID: <390BBC07.44A77065@gte.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

FS: New OHR WM-2 meter just completed and aligned. Beautiful meter carefully assembled with three ranges of 100mW, 1W and 10W in both forward and reverse directions. Operates using an internal 9V battery or external 12V source and is complete with manual... \$110.00

Pat, AA7FG - Oregon

Date: Sat, 29 Apr 2000 22:14:31 -0700
From: Patrick Armstrong <aa7fg@gte.net>
To: qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU
Subject: [69050] WANT: Tentec Argo II manual...
Message-ID: <390BC137.7DC7097@gte.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Purchased TT MDL-535 Argonaut 2 (nice rig), but I only received the preliminary manual with it... I know they offered a more comprehensive one with circuit descriptions, schematics, etc... Does TT still sell this manual? W7FG doesn't (I looked)... Any help would be appreciated as I need to understand why the s-meter is very scotchy at best... Thanks for the help!

Pat, AA7FG - Oregon...

Date: Sat, 29 Apr 2000 23:06:06 -0700
From: "Floyd Smithberg" <flydnq7x@primenet.com>
To: "QRP-L Message" <qrp-l@Lehigh.edu>
Subject: [69051] QRPTTF
Message-ID: <000501bfb26a\$60b64a20\$ad3184ce@primenet.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

So much fun with so little time...besides caretaking my AD wife and diabetic dog I somehow managed about 3 hrs op time. Condx were only fair...never heard AK, HI or HP but was called by two JA. Still, apparently, a good time was had by all. Tnx

to everyone who put this together and all you participants.

Band	QSOs	Points	S/P/C
40CW	8	92	5
20CW	44	550	28
15CW	10	104	8
10CW	1	1	1

	63	747	42

Score: 747 x 42 x 1 = 31,374

TS850/5W...3EL TriBand, 40M dipole....TR Log
Floyd NQ7X Phoenix,AZ ScQRPion DM33uq

Date: Sun, 30 Apr 2000 02:15:47 EDT
From: BenNW7DX@aol.com
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Subject: [69052] QRPTTF: N7KE lake operation
Message-ID: <b0.47ac2bd.263d2993@aol.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="US-ASCII"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Well, another wonderful time had by the N7KE clan. We got off to a bit

of a slow start, but really pulled it together as time went on. Our unofficial qso count was around 89 or so, but i've got to run all the dupe checks, etc and get all of the scoring taken care of. Most of our operation was on 20 meters, but alot of Monster signals on 15 meters as well! Our antennas were a 20 mtr double zep, and a double-delta loop array, for 20mtrs as well. These were fed into our K2 and RedHot 20 (everybody in the club absolutely loved these rigs). Both were excellent performers.

When I was infront of the rig, I heard many familiar calls and some new calls too. It sounded like the activity this year was up quite a bit from last year. Hopefully it will be even more active next year. It sounded like towards the end of the contest, everyone was begging for contacts.

It was fun hearing all of the portable stations. Many of them had huge signals into the Northwest. Never did hear Jim up there in AK but did manage to work a Japanese station which was very nice. I hope everyone had as much fun as I did. It was a great way to spend a Saturday afternoon.

72,
Ben - NW7DX

Date: Sun, 30 Apr 2000 03:42:30 EDT
From: BenNW7DX@aol.com
To: qrp-1@lehigh.edu
Subject: [69053] QRPTTF: N7KE Final results (here's the actual numbers)
Message-ID: <25.50a2b9c.263d3de6@aol.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="US-ASCII"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

For some reason, I thought that counting up all of the QSO's on each band and scoring would take a while, but I just finished it, so here are the Official results...

BAND	Raw QSOs	Valid QSOs	Points	SPCs
40CW	3	3	40	2
20CW	66	66	875	21
15CW	28	26	380	18

Totals	97	95	1295	41

Final Score = 1295 x 41 x 3 = 159,285 points.

Operators at N7KE : NW7DX, KB7N, W7HQJ, W7QC, W7ZF, KK7UT, W7HLO, K7SZL, W9HXM

73 and thanks again,
Ben - NW7DX

Date: Sun, 30 Apr 2000 07:46:59 -0400
From: "Michael Bower - N4NMR" <bowerm@ix.netcom.com>
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [69054] Re: DK9SQ mast - was QRPTTF - Much fun (long)
Message-ID: <05e501bfb299\$cbeb5040\$0100a8c0@dadsmachine>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

I thought once about drilling small holes in the masts WHEN they are extended. Then when the mast is up, put nuts and bolts through those holes to keep it up. When ready to come down, pull the nuts & bolts and keep them in a bag somewhere. Now you have something else to carry but it might keep the mast from collapsing.

Anybody actually tried this?

Michael - N4NMR

----- Original Message -----
From: Jay Freeman <jayFreem@direcpc.com>
To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Sent: Sunday, April 30, 2000 12:01 AM
Subject: DK9SQ mast - was QRPTTF - Much fun (long)

> Hi Roger,
>
> Roger Hightower wrote:
>
> > I also set up a DK9SQ Mast and his Loop antenna for the first time, to
> > see how that would work. We all used one of the Masts, and found that
> > no matter how hard you twist and pull to secure the sections, they will
> > eventually collapse. We experienced high winds, and I'm sure it's
> > because the masts flexed in the wind and the friction fit of the joints
> > broke down. It's disconcerting to hear a rippling sound as your mast
> > collapses section by section. A little electrical tape wrapping around
> > each joint kept it up from that point on.
>
> I've never had this problem, but I've always set it up with just an

inverted

> vee. The weight of the antenna and the slight tension of the guy lines at
> the end of the wires cause the skinny tip to bow over, all the way to
> slightly past horizontal. I guess that keeps enough tension on the joints
> that they stick together. I have had the wind pull my antenna off the tip
> though, which is a bit of a surprise when it happens :). I'm going to get

a

> fly rod tip and glue it on, I think.

>

> 73,

>

> Jay

> --

> *-----*

> * Jay Freeman - WT9S ARRL *

> * G-QRP 10319 QRP-ARCI 9981 ARS 562 *

> * SASS #18700 NRA Life *

> *-----*

>

>

Date: Sun, 30 Apr 2000 08:12:11 -0400

From: wb2vuo@juno.com

To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu

Subject: [69055] Norcal 20 Improvements?

Message-ID: <20000430.081214.-108291.0.wb2vuo@juno.com>

MIME-Version: 1.0

Content-Type: text/plain

Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

OK. I should have kept all of those posts. I should have kept the URL
for the Norcal 20 Website. I should have committed them to memory...

But I didn't...

I finished Steve, WS2F's Norcal 20 yesterday afternoon, even have made
some contacts with it. However, I remember discussions of improving the
RX, improving the AGC action, cleaning up the output (although it sounds
just fine to me, and the 2nd harmonic is >40 dB down), and a bunch of
other things.

Where do I look for the mods and improvements? One mod of my own was to
wind the bifilar-wound transformers (T3 & T8) with the wire pairs twisted
together. It's just the way I have always done a bi- or tri-filar
winding, and seems easier for me.

Also, here's the current draw. Does this jive with the others?

Measured at 13.2 V: RX - 140 ma
 TX - 0.5W, 330 ma
 1.0W, 420 ma
 2.0W, 550 ma
 3.0W, 620 ma
 4.0W, 760 ma
 4.4 W, 800 ma (max output)

I can't check MDS as I do not have a calibrated source, but atmospheric noise produces a noticable increase when switching from a 50-ohm dummy to the antenna, so I am doing just fine in that respect.

I >>>LOVE<<< the AFA!! It should be a standard feature for every rig. I am running the keyer in "Straight Key" mode as the paddles are still unassembled (my own design, not the Norcal ones). After this, I am almost ready to start gathering parts for a 30 Meter version of the 2N2/40 as I already have 40M covered.

72/73, Keith, WB2VUO, 100% QRP from the Depths of the Great Bergen Swamp
VP & FD'00 Chairman, Brockport Amateur Radio Klub & SOC # 119
My night light runs more power than my Rig!!!
Replies off-list to: wb2vuo@arrl.net

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<http://dl.www.juno.com/get/tagj>.

Date: Sun, 30 Apr 2000 09:39:03 -0300

From: cx8at@adinet.com.uy

To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>

Subject: [69056] IC-735 MODS TO QRP

Message-ID: <390C2967.7CFDB8B8@adinet.com.uy>

MIME-Version: 1.0

Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii

Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Hi

Does anybody know a place in the web where to find the mods for the

IC-735 for working qrp?

Now with the power pot set to minimum it is about 9 watts output, i want to get 4 - 3 watts. Maybe somebody has already made such change?

Any info would be very appreciated.

Al, CX8AT/qrp

Date: Sun, 30 Apr 2000 12:44:06 +0100

From: wd3p@juno.com

To: qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU

Subject: [69057] QRPTTF

Message-ID: <20000430.124432.-358745.0.wd3p@juno.com>

MIME-Version: 1.0

Content-Type: text/plain

Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

A fun day. WX and family obligations kept my time short. Al week the Saturday forecast did not look good. I wanted to head out to the DE beaches for an OC location for the contest. But the forecast even Friday night said overcast, perhaps some drizzle and a cool ocean breeze. Definitely not a good forecast. Saturday morning the forecast was a bit better - they dropped the rain.

The youngest went off to her pine wood derby races. Then I watch the sky start to clear. Things were looking up as the day progressed. Finally three hours after the contest started we got our act together for the two hour drive to the beach - things never go fast with three kids around. The destination was Cape Henlopen State Park where Delaware Bay and the Atlantic Ocean meet. We got there about 5 local time - six hours into the contest.

I would like to have operated from the cape itself, but that was off bounds - it seems the birds nest there and they don't want the big two legged creatures there with them. This place is really neat - the sand dunes give you the feel of what the Atlantic coast must have looked like before all the vacation spot were developed. I settled for a spot south of the cape on the Atlantic. The South Bend fishing pole was tied to a fence post used to protect the dunes from the aforementioned two legged creatures. You are not allowed on the dunes. So much for getting a high spot. The dipole was hung and the rig hooked up.

First QSO came off at 2145z. With such a late start I hoped there was still some activity. I stayed about an hour working 40 and 20 meters, ending up with a total of eight QSOs. Not many but it was worth the fun. I started packing about 7pm local time. It was getting late, I was

sitting in the shade, and the cool ocean breeze was getting the fingers cold even though the official temperature was up around 60.

We headed out for the trip home, making it there about 10 pm.

A fun day.....73/72 de
Larry.....WD3P.....DE OC

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<http://dl.www.juno.com/get/tagj>.

Date: Sun, 30 Apr 2000 08:18:27 -0500
From: "Craig W. Behrens" <craigwb@hiwaay.net>
To: "QRP-L QRP-L" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [69058] Test Message
Message-ID: <LPBBIKBNB00LHAAJAHJGAENLCCAA.craigwb@hiwaay.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Please ignore this test message.

72/73 & DX,
Craig W. Behrens
Madison, AL

Date: Sun, 30 Apr 2000 09:29:46 -0400 (EDT)
From: "John L. Sielke" <n4js@pobox.com>
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Subject: [69059] QRPTTF-Delaware Bay
Message-ID: <XFMail.000430092946.n4js@pobox.com>
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit
MIME-Version: 1.0

Assembled the trusty K2 station on a breakwater right on the Delaware Bay, next to East Point Lighthouse. (note the LISTPROC would not allow me to say "I set up.... or even "Set up...."
I thought after 4 years at Lehigh U (1962-1966) it would quit picking on me!),

Beautiful day, although a bit breezy in the afternoon. I was

all alone for the first hour or so, but then people began asking questions. Finally, another ham came up and introduced himself. It seems he is involved with the Annual Lighthouse Day operations from all the Delaware Bay lighthouses. He told me they only had one CW operator, and would I consider operating in August. Well, I guess I'll be on form one of the Lighthouses in August. When I told him I also had a boat, he really lit up. Seems they need someone across the bay on the Delaware side, at "14 Foot Bank Lighthouse." I think it is August 5th, so we will see.

The QRPTTF operation went OK, although not a lot of contacts (about 35-40, haven't totalled them up.). I'll do that as soon as I have some time. One question, is it OK to email the picture as an attachment with the logs?

72/72

/ \ / \ / \ / \ John L. Sielke n4js@pobox.com n4js@qsl.net
(N)(4)(J)(S) NJ Grid:FM29LN <http://www.qsl.net/n4js>
/ _/_ _/_ _/_ NJ-QRP #57 QRP-L #884 QRP-ARCI ARQrp #86
G-QRP #9544 NorCal #1989 CQC AKQRP QCWA FISTS #2781

Date: Sun, 30 Apr 2000 07:04:26 -0700
From: Bruce Grubbs N7CEE <n7ceeqrp@earthlink.net>
To: qrp-1@LeHigh.edu
Cc: azqrp@extremezone.com, elecrafft@qth.net
Subject: [69060] QRPTTF: W7TA0
Message-ID: <4.3.1.0.20000430065828.01c86990@earthlink.net>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"; format=flowed

We (K7BUG and N7CEE) ended up on the shores of Upper Lake Mary southeast of Flagstaff in a stand of pines. We used my K2 with ATU (#244), a 40m vertical supported on a DK9SQ mast, and a delta loop, both fed with 4:1 baluns and twin lead. The ATU tuned both antennas to 1.1 or better. As accurately predicted by NA5N, the bands were up and down- long slow fades. We surfed the crests and worked 53 stations while surviving the increasing gale of cold air sweeping down the lake. And gave thanks our original plan to go MM on the lake fell through. Not a nice day on the water!

A great QRP TTF, though!

72
Bruce

Bruce Grubbs, n7ceeqrp@earthlink.net

Date: Sun, 30 Apr 2000 09:19:33 -0500
From: Nick Kennedy <nkennedy@tcainternet.com>
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion (E-mail)" <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [69061] QRPTTF Notes
Message-ID: <01BFB285.33019740.nkennedy@tcainternet.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

This was my first QRP-TTF because usually the date collides with the Little Rock hamfest. Not this year.

The Site:

There's a valley between Tibet and China walled off by mountains and almost completely inaccessible to humans. It features beautiful, towering waterfalls. I didn't go there.

At the back boundary of my yard is a creek, poetically named "Engineer's Ditch" on city drainage drawings. Completely grown up with underbrush, it's almost as inaccessible as that place in Tibet. It flows year round and occasionally leaps its banks and threatens my house. If you're wondering if it's a real creek, it even has fish in it. (OK, minnows.) Also, there are fierce mosquitos in the area of my yard. They are Laotian or something, have stripped socks, and will bite you right through your Levis.

The Stuff:

I set up my card table in the creek bed with one leg in the water. Spent the usual hour or more doing my Charlie Brown With Kite routine and finally got my dipole up a good 40 feet or so. I used my Red Hot 20 and an MFJ tuner plus choke balun. A 4-AH Gell Cell from BG Micro. Arkiecon 2000 QRP mini-logbook from Doug and an old fashioned paper dupe sheet.

The Results:

Not too bad for single band operation. Think I made about 40 QSO's.

Didn't even work CA, WA or OR. Worked only one VE. Worked lots of zeroes, lots of CO and NM. Only celebrities I worked were Dr. Megacycle and W5KID. Worked a few county hunters. What are you supposed to say to 'em?

The gurgling of the creek was nice. And the roar of lawn mowers and my neighbor's backhoe added a Field Day kind of ambience. Plus, there were leaf blowers, weed eaters and young guys with their Thump-Thump-Thump car stereos cruising by occasionally.

Photos?

I'm trying this site that HP has that was pointed to by my new HP digital camera software. I think it's open to anyone, though. Don't think I can come up with a direct link to my pix. You gotta go to <http://www.cartogra.com> and then click View Public Photo Albums and then select Hobbies and Activities:Other and you should see one called Ham Radio WA5BDU. Click that and click the thumbnail photos. Whew!

72 and CU next time,

Nick, WA5BDU
in Arkansas

Date: Sun, 30 Apr 2000 10:40:18 -0400
From: Jim Lyons <lyons@canada.com>
To: qrp-1@lehigh.edu
Subject: [69062] Rochester, NH Hamfest
Message-ID: <3.0.5.32.20000430104018.007c77e0@pop.videotron.ca>
MIME-version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii

Can anyone tell me about the Hamfest/Fleamarket that usually takes place in May at Rochester NH?

Jim Lyons, VE2KN
Montreal

Date: Sun, 30 Apr 2000 08:46:44 -0600
From: "Karl B. Staddon" <ve6kbs@agt.net>
To: bowerm@ix.netcom.com
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>

Subject: [69063] Re: DK9SQ mast - was QRPTTF - Much fun (long)
Message-ID: <390C4754.EBD588A3@agt.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Michael, I'd be concerned about weakening the mast sections by drilling them, especially the smaller diameter sections.

I've thought about using stainless steel hose clamps placed just ABOVE each joint to keep the upper section from falling into the lower section. (My hunch is that trying to squeeze the lower section onto the upper section using a hose clamp is NOT the way to travel).

Cheers
Karl B. Staddon, VE6KBS, CALGARY, AB

Michael Bower - N4NMR wrote:

> I thought once about drilling small holes in the masts WHEN they are
> extended. Then when the mast is up, put nuts and bolts through those holes
> to keep it up. When ready to come down, pull the nuts & bolts and keep them
> in a bag somewhere. Now you have something else to carry but it might keep
> the mast from collapsing.

>
> Anybody actually tried this?

>
> Michael - N4NMR

>
> ----- Original Message -----
> From: Jay Freeman <jayFreem@direcpc.com>
> To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
> Sent: Sunday, April 30, 2000 12:01 AM
> Subject: DK9SQ mast - was QRPTTF - Much fun (long)

>
> > Hi Roger,

> >
> > Roger Hightower wrote:

> >
> > > I also set up a DK9SQ Mast and his Loop antenna for the first time, to
> > > see how that would work. We all used one of the Masts, and found that
> > > no matter how hard you twist and pull to secure the sections, they will
> > > eventually collapse. We experienced high winds, and I'm sure it's
> > > because the masts flexed in the wind and the friction fit of the joints
> > > broke down. It's disconcerting to hear a rippling sound as your mast
> > > collapses section by section. A little electrical tape wrapping around
> > > each joint kept it up from that point on.

> >

> > I've never had this problem, but I've always set it up with just an
> > inverted
> > vee. The weight of the antenna and the slight tension of the guy lines at
> > the end of the wires cause the skinny tip to bow over, all the way to
> > slightly past horizontal. I guess that keeps enough tension on the joints
> > that they stick together. I have had the wind pull my antenna off the tip
> > though, which is a bit of a surprise when it happens :). I'm going to get
> > a
> > fly rod tip and glue it on, I think.
> >
> > 73,
> >
> > Jay
> > --
> > *-----*
> > * Jay Freeman - WT9S ARRL *
> > * G-QRP 10319 QRP-ARCI 9981 ARS 562 *
> > * SASS #18700 NRA Life *
> > *-----*
> >
> >

Date: Sun, 30 Apr 2000 10:51:08 EDT
From: SMurph555@aol.com
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Cc: Caljsi@aol.com
Subject: [69064] QRPTTF 2000 - K4JSI
Message-ID: <fb.51cd6f9.263da25c@aol.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="US-ASCII"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Hi gang,

I operated QRPTTF from the Monacacy Aqueduct, which was built in 1833 as an overpass for the C&O Canal above the Monocacy River, at the point the Monocacy flows into the Potomac River. It's a beautiful spot! So I was category WT for the event, and I had a ball!

I used my Index QRP+ and a KW Electronics, Z-Match ATU, feeding a St. Louis doublet. The center support was a 20 foot long, Uncle Buck, Crappie pole. To tune the antenna system, I used a noise bridge, although the time constant in the QRP+ AGC made that a rather difficult process. Power was from a Yuasa, 17 AH, SLA battery.

The net in five hours of operation was 61 QSOs in 38 SPCs, on 10M through 40M. Most QSOs were with other WT stations and HOs, but did snare 3 MMs and 11 OCs. My score looks to be 86,640.

The C&O Canal is popular with both hikers and cyclists, so I did considerable explaining of what I was up to. One cyclist was on his way to Michigan from Washington, DC, and an N3, who was separating Catfish from their natural environment, came by and introduced himself.

Thanks to those who've conceived QRPTTF with its variants over the years, and to the NorCal "Contest Critter"!

72/73

Cal K4JSI

Date: Mon, 01 May 2000 07:58:01 -0700
From: Roger Hightower <n7kt@worldnet.att.net>
To: bowerm@ix.netcom.com
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [69065] Re: DK9SQ mast - was QRPTTF - Much fun (long)
Message-ID: <390D9B79.CB37E887@worldnet.att.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

First, something I didn't mention in the first post. The winds were 30+ knots, gusting to 40 or more at times. The spreaders for the loop made the mast twist and whip quite a bit, and I suspect this is the reason the joints let go. Just constant flexing. I had one arm tethered so I wouldn't be radiating like a lighthouse, but probably should have tethered both to reduce the gyrations. A wild, windy day.

K7RE used hose clamps on his mast, and I believe they were tightened down just above each lower section. Not compression joints, but rather acting as "stoppers". Seemed to work fine, but just takes more time to erect the mast.

I'm going to try putting heat-shrink tubing over the top end of each section for a little more strength, and will probably just carry some duct tape to wrap each joint with. I don't think the problem will exist in less than gale conditions.

K7RE did say that the same situation occurred when he and N4BP were at C6A, so it's just something about the mast fit.

No biggie here. I can live with it, and I do think that the loop worked very well. When the wind didn't bend it over so much that I was CQ'ing the surface of the lake, :-)

--

72.....Roger

Roger Hightower, N7KT Mesa, AZ K2#591 SOC #14

Date: Sun, 30 Apr 2000 11:08:16 EDT
From: Rod Johnson <ka7you@juno.com>
To: bowerm@ix.netcom.com
Cc: qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU
Subject: [69066] Re: DK9SQ mast - was QRPTTF - Much fun (long)
Message-ID: <20000430.072618.4479.14.ka7you@juno.com>

Michael an all,

I might suggest a slightly different type of retainer. It will eliminate the task of keeping nuts and bolts together.

Go to the local welding shop and ask for a few lengths of stainless steel welding rod. It comes in several sizes, and you want about 1/8 inch rod (any larger and you will have trouble cutting and bending it-trust me).

Now bend a short piece of the rod into a shape somewhat like a safety pin. You can bend a small sideways "J" on one end to hold the other end when the retainer is closed. Just drill a very small hole (9/64 inch) through the telescoping sections where you want the retainer, and slip it through. When not needed, they all will clip together, so as to be less likely to disappear-or at least they will all "hide" together.

For slightly more 'Heavy Duty' pins, I use a piece of straight 1/4 inch stainless rod, and drill each end for a small version of the previously mentioned retainer clip, or you could use cotter pins or just safety wire.

7 3,

Rod Johnson KA7YOU from grid CN97AK near Issaquah, Wa.
80M thru 10M with K2 s/n268 and other fine QRP rigs.
VHF thru 1296 MHz-higher bands pending
ARCI-QRP #7251 QRP-L #844 NWQRP #120 NorCal #2007 SOC#184 and others

On Sun, 30 Apr 2000 07:46:59 -0400 "Michael Bower - N4NMR" <bowerm@ix.netcom.com> writes:
>I thought once about drilling small holes in the masts WHEN they are
>extended. Then when the mast is up, put nuts and bolts through those
>holes
>to keep it up. When ready to come down, pull the nuts & bolts and
>keep them
>in a bag somewhere. Now you have something else to carry but it might
>keep
>the mast from collapsing.

>
>Anybody actually tried this?
>
>Michael - N4NMR
>
>----- Original Message -----
>From: Jay Freeman <jayFreem@direcpc.com>
>To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
>Sent: Sunday, April 30, 2000 12:01 AM
>Subject: DK9SQ mast - was QRPTTF - Much fun (long)
>
>
>> Hi Roger,
>>
>> Roger Hightower wrote:
>>
>> > I also set up a DK9SQ Mast and his Loop antenna for the first
>time, to
>> > see how that would work. We all used one of the Masts, and found
>that
>> > no matter how hard you twist and pull to secure the sections, they
>will
>> > eventually collapse. We experienced high winds, and I'm sure it's
>> > because the masts flexed in the wind and the friction fit of the
>joints
>> > broke down. It's disconcerting to hear a rippling sound as your
>mast
>> > collapses section by section. A little electrical tape wrapping
>around
>> > each joint kept it up from that point on.
>>
>> I've never had this problem, but I've always set it up with just an
>inverted
>> vee. The weight of the antenna and the slight tension of the guy
>lines at
>> the end of the wires cause the skinny tip to bow over, all the way
>to
>> slightly past horizontal. I guess that keeps enough tension on the
>joints
>> that they stick together. I have had the wind pull my antenna off
>the tip
>> though, which is a bit of a surprise when it happens :). I'm going
>to get
>a
>> fly rod tip and glue it on, I think.
>>
>> 73,
>>

>> Jay
>> --
>> *-----*
>> * Jay Freeman - WT9S ARRL *
>> * G-QRP 10319 QRP-ARCI 9981 ARS 562 *
>> * SASS #18700 NRA Life *
>> *-----*
>>
>>
>

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<http://dl.www.juno.com/get/tagj>.

Date: Sun, 30 Apr 2000 08:14:12 -0700 (PDT)
From: Jim Hale <kj5tf@yahoo.com>
To: QRP-L <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [69067] Small batteries & Solar power
Message-ID: <20000430151412.16660.qmail@web703.mail.yahoo.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii

> Jim:
>
> I just re-read this post and would like to know your
> source of solar panels.
> I am in the market for the flexible ones and plan to
> use them to charge a 12
> volt 4amp/hr gel cell. Let me know your secrets
> concerning charging rates and
> controllers. Thanks in advance
>
> Dick

Hi- wish I could tell you where these things can be
found. I don't have one of them.

Instead I have a 5w square panel I bought from West
Marine when it was on sale several years ago.

If you just want to charge a 4ah battery you might
consider one of those small panels that sell in JC
Whitney, and car parts places. They usually sit on the

dash board and keep the car btry fresh. Yes they are pretty low in the watt department, but for a small battery pack might be a El-Cheapo way to go?

As for a controler, I dont use them. Well, on my house btrys I have the best I could find ! Hi

But on small panels and small btrys just let her ripp!

Monitor the voltage and be sure its not above 14.9

Ideal lead acid voltage is 13.8 chargeing voltage. But there is good reason to bring it up another volt. My high dollar house btry charge controler has an "Equalize" switch. Every now and then you are supposed do that, and it allows full charge, and I let the voltage climb UP to 15v for 15 minutes or so.

Now, never allow the btry to get warm, or HOT! ;-)

If you want to put a blocking diode in the + chargeing line. This will keep the btry from reversing into the panel at night and draining.

Or just remember to start charging in the AM, and disconnect late afternoon before sunset.

The blocking diode is a good idea tho.. we can forget to disconnect! hi hi

If you really want a controler there are afew available, but I dont have any info.

Solar is simple - I like to keep it that way :)

Ive been operating with recycled C cell nicads for years and years! I never use a controler, and the bats never let me down. Hi! And they were used/surplus when I got em!

With C cells I run 700mW and they last a loooong time! never the less, I bring along two sets....

I can run 2 watts off C cells for a short time.

I got my C cells from American Science Surplus, but there are many surplus companies out there.

I think its my "duty" to use the nicads, as if someone dosnt they will be land fill. bummer

OH, nicads do not suffer from cold WX as lead acids do! Just like your car btry, any lead acid btry loses 30% ++ of its charge below certain temps!

FYBO QRP'ers, are you paying attention?

As you know nicads were used in early earth satelllites, and in some cases kept on going and going wayyyyy longer then anyone predicted! Dispite extreme changes in temp hour to hour of spaceflight.

AND! If one cell goes bad in a string of nicads, its EASY to repair! Try that in a gell cell!

Good QRP'ing my friend Jim KJ5TF
"All milliwatts, All the time"

=====

<http://www.madisoncounty.net/~kj5tf/>
Milliwatting Editor ARCI QRP Quarterly
Join/renew membership QRP Amateur Radio Club International
<http://www.qrparci.org/arcijoin.html>
AR QRP#2 - Kingston, Arkansas 35.94N 93.47W
Private email kj5tf@madisoncounty.net

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<http://im.yahoo.com/>

Date: Sun, 30 Apr 2000 11:04:18 -0400
From: "Michael Bower - N4NMR" <bowerm@ix.netcom.com>
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [69068] Re: DK9SQ mast - was QRPTTF - Much fun (long)
Message-ID: <065c01bfb2b5\$5e9f8300\$0100a8c0@dadsmachine>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Good point, Karl. I hadn't thought of that.

Your hose clamp idea has merit but wouldn't you have to tighten them quite a

bit to get them to work. Maybe if you put a stripe of rubber (like from a bicycle innertube) between the clamp and the mast, it might hold better and not have to be tightened so much. Time for an experiment.

In the meantime, maybe I WON'T put holes in my mast. (Hmm, Wal-Mart sells a much shorter version for a lot less money. Maybe I should buy one of those and experiment with the nail holes. May be time for a trip to Wal-Mart.)

Michael

----- Original Message -----

From: Karl B. Staddon <ve6kbs@agt.net>

To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>

Sent: Sunday, April 30, 2000 10:46 AM

Subject: Re: DK9SQ mast - was QRPTTF - Much fun (long)

> Michael, I'd be concerned about weakening the mast sections by drilling them,
> especially the smaller diameter sections.
>
> I've thought about using stainless steel hose clamps placed just ABOVE each joint to keep the upper section from falling into the lower section. (My hunch is that trying to squeeze the lower section onto the upper section using a hose clamp is NOT the way to travel).
>
> Cheers
> Karl B. Staddon, VE6KBS, CALGARY, AB
>
> Michael Bower - N4NMR wrote:
>
> > I thought once about drilling small holes in the masts WHEN they are
> > extended. Then when the mast is up, put nuts and bolts through those holes
> > to keep it up. When ready to come down, pull the nuts & bolts and keep them
> > in a bag somewhere. Now you have something else to carry but it might keep
> > the mast from collapsing.
> >
> > Anybody actually tried this?
> >
> > Michael - N4NMR
> >
> > ----- Original Message -----

> > From: Jay Freeman <jayFreem@direcpc.com>
> > To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
> > Sent: Sunday, April 30, 2000 12:01 AM
> > Subject: DK9SQ mast - was QRPTTF - Much fun (long)
> >
> > > Hi Roger,
> > >
> > > Roger Hightower wrote:
> > >
> > > > I also set up a DK9SQ Mast and his Loop antenna for the first time,
to
> > > > see how that would work. We all used one of the Masts, and found
that
> > > > no matter how hard you twist and pull to secure the sections, they
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> > > > eventually collapse. We experienced high winds, and I'm sure it's
> > > > because the masts flexed in the wind and the friction fit of the
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> > > > broke down. It's disconcerting to hear a rippling sound as your
mast
> > > > collapses section by section. A little electrical tape wrapping
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> > > > each joint kept it up from that point on.
> > >
> > > I've never had this problem, but I've always set it up with just an
> > inverted
> > > vee. The weight of the antenna and the slight tension of the guy lines
at
> > > the end of the wires cause the skinny tip to bow over, all the way to
> > > slightly past horizontal. I guess that keeps enough tension on the
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> > > that they stick together. I have had the wind pull my antenna off the
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> > > though, which is a bit of a surprise when it happens :). I'm going to
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> > a
> > > fly rod tip and glue it on, I think.
> > >
> > > 73,
> > >
> > > Jay
> > > --
> > > *-----*
> > > * Jay Freeman - WT9S ARRL *
> > > * G-QRP 10319 QRP-ARCI 9981 ARS 562 *
> > > * SASS #18700 NRA Life *
> > > *-----*
> > >

> > >
>

Date: Sun, 30 Apr 2000 09:33:05 -0600
From: jaywa5whn@juno.com
To: qrp-1@lehigh.edu
Subject: [69069] QRPTTF 2k W5ABQ NM WT
Message-ID: <20000430.093634.-919137.1.jaywa5whn@juno.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

W5BI & I had decided to head up to the site (1 mile south of Stable Canyon, dark sky country, grid square: DM65ot, 7100 ft. asl} on Friday evening. W5ABQ had arrived on Saturday morning. Pat had used his brand new Garmin 12CX GPS receiver to navigate to the site. It's amazing what you can teach a software engineer. ;-)

We had talked about going MM in NM, but no one would believe us. ;-)
{Elephant Butte, Conchas, El Vado Lakes next year?}

This was Pat's first time in the Jemez Mountains, Santa Fe National Forest.

We were right next to the Rio Guadalupe, which was riding fairly high on the banks {white water}. The noise of the rushing water actually had forced us to wear headsets for the weak ones.

It would not be a QRPTTF event in NM if we did not have 40+ mph wind speeds. UV index was 10. At least it did not snow on us this year. We had set up the station out in the open terrain, up against a few tall ponderosa pine trees overlooking the river.

Lots of new K2, DSW, NC20, NW-X0 & other xcvr kits heard on the air.

We have slightly less than 90 contacts in the log. A very relaxing event.

AL0HA & W1VT were both S-9 on 10 meters for most of the day. AA5B must have been close. We could work Bruce on ground wave on 15 & 20 meters. We could hear the pile ups calling KK6MC. Lots of QRP callsigns on the air, VE6QRP, NQ5RP, et al. K0EVZ was in there racking up the points, well done Doc. Even KI6DS had dropped by to say "Hello" on 20 cw. Doug should have some very interesting photos of his view of the naturalist beach. KF2EW, nice signal, along with quite a few NY & NJ stations in their.

We had heard AL7FS for a short instant, but QRM was fierce around 14.061 MHz. 15 m was the best band for the east coast, 20m was changing by the hour. Mid USA, Canada, EBay {California} then stretch out, and drop back.

We had abused W5ABQ's callsign and W5BI's radio equipment {windom antenna {N-S} & 5 w}.

Lots of H0, OC & MM stations.

We had numerous stations, who were not in the contest, asking what it was about. Later on, we would hear the same stations working the rest of the herd.

40cw was marginal, however, we did work some of the AZ & TX QRPers. It was great to hear N7TX {AZ} back on the air.

We were on @ 1500 UTC & out of there by 2100 UTC.

My tnx to N0QT for being this year's QRPTTF 2k contest manager & to NA5N for a good prop forecast. Let's do this again next year.

72...Jay, WA5WHN DM65qd

Albuquerque, NM USA

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<http://dl.www.juno.com/get/tagj>.

Date: Sun, 30 Apr 2000 12:08:45 -0400

From: "AI2Q Alex" <ai2q@ispchannel.com>

To: <lyons@canada.com>

Cc: "QRP-L (E-mail)" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>

Subject: [69070] RE: Rochester, NH Hamfest

Message-ID: <000401bfb2be\$5d639180\$5c32a7d0@ispchannel.com>

MIME-Version: 1.0

Content-Type: text/plain;

charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

It's slated for May 12th and 13th.

Vy 73, AI2Q, Alex in Kennebunk, Maine QRP-L 687 .-.-.

-----Original Message-----

From: owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU [mailto:owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU] On Behalf Of
Jim Lyons
Sent: Sunday, April 30, 2000 10:40 AM
To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion
Subject: Rochester, NH Hamfest

Can anyone tell me about the Hamfest/Fleamarket that usually takes place in
May at Rochester NH?

Jim Lyons, VE2KN
Montreal

Date: Sun, 30 Apr 2000 13:04:04 -0400
From: Dan Benard <trackerdan@earthlink.net>
To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [69071] SMK-1:No receive
Message-ID: <390C6784.A4BFE262@earthlink.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Greetings,

Well, the solder flowed and the chips fell (on the carpet... same EXACT
color as an SM cap!), and now half of the SMK-1 works, I think. The TX
seems ok, I can hear it on another receiver, and it responds to the TX
tuning control, puts out about 1/4 watt. But, alas, no receive. I can
hear a steady hiss from the audio amp, but no RX noise, and no peaks on
TC1 or TC2. I have checked the supply voltage on pin 8 of the SA612, ok
at 6V. I also see tuning voltage on the top of D3 and D4. But I don't
think X1, the receive crystal is oscillating. Should I be able to hear
that on another receiver with a pick up wire close by?? This receiver is
so simple, I don't know what else I can do to troubleshoot it, other
than to start replacing parts (not looking forward to that with SM
components!!). I have tried connecting the antenna to the wiper of

VR1... nothing. If I go to the top of C1, I get a POP in the headphones, the audio goes away for a couple of seconds, then recovers, but still no signals.

If would be interested in hearing any other suggestions. I have been over the board several times looking for obvious things, like unsoldered ends of components, solder bridges, mismatched polarities, etc, so I think I'm ok there. My next thought would be to replace the 612 (ugh).

Thanks in advance!!

73, Dan W1RDB
Merrimack, NH

Date: Sun, 30 Apr 2000 10:09:12 -0700
From: "Bob Tellefsen" <n6wg@earthlink.net>
To: <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [69072] QTTF 40m Question
Message-ID: <01bfb2c6\$ce382d00\$29f1fc9e@ham.earthlink.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

I've noticed most folks who reported working 40m also worked other bands. Is there anyone else besides me who worked 40m only? If so, how did you do?

My 43 contacts and 8 S/P/C for 14,560 points didn't exactly thrill me. I wonder if my experience is typical for others who did 40m only?
73, Bob N6WG

Date: Sun, 30 Apr 2000 13:20:42 -0400
From: Dan Benard <trackerdan@earthlink.net>
To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [69073] Re: SMK-1:No receive
Message-ID: <390C6B6A.19684D78@earthlink.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Oh, yeah, almost forget... I don't get any sidetone at all.

Dan Benard wrote:

>
> Greetings,
>
> Well, the solder flowed and the chips fell (on the carpet... same EXACT
> color as an SM cap!), and now half of the SMK-1 works, I think. The TX
> seems ok, I can hear it on another receiver, and it responds to the TX
> tuning control, puts out about 1/4 watt. But, alas, no receive. I can
> hear a steady hiss from the audio amp, but no RX noise, and no peaks on
> TC1 or TC2. I have checked the supply voltage on pin 8 of the SA612, ok
> at 6V. I also see tuning voltage on the top of D3 and D4. But I don't
> think X1, the receive crystal is oscillating. Should I be able to hear
> that on another receiver with a pick up wire close by?? This receiver is
> so simple, I don't know what else I can do to troubleshoot it, other
> than to start replacing parts (not looking forward to that with SM
> components!!). I have tried connecting the antenna to the wiper of
> VR1... nothing. If I go to the top of C1, I get a POP in the headphones,
> the audio goes away for a couple of seconds, then recovers, but still no
> signals.
> If would be interested in hearing any other suggestions. I have been
> over the board several times looking for obvious things, like unsoldered
> ends of components, solder bridges, mismatched polarities, etc, so I
> think I'm ok there. My next thought would be to replace the 612 (ugh).
>
> Thanks in advance!!
>
> 73, Dan W1RDB
> Merrimack, NH

Date: Sun, 30 Apr 2000 13:32:27 -5
From: "Bill Kelsey - N8ET - Kanga US" <kanga@bright.net>
To: qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU
Subject: [69074] QRPTTF - N8ET
Message-ID: <200004301732.NAA03389@sparticus.bright.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset=US-ASCII
Content-transfer-encoding: 7BIT

I got in two hours of operating time - made about 30 QSO's on 40 meters only. I spent the rest of the time building a New Kit - The Hands GQ Plus - I'll have it at Dayton....

2 hours was plenty of time to be sitting hunched over in that cockpit!

Operated as a MM class station. Set up my DK9SQ mast with the loop on my 14' Force 5 sailboat. Pictures are at:

<http://www.bright.net/~kanga/kanga/qrpttf.htm>

I had to get all the bikinis to leave the beach in the background while I was taking the pictures - I did not want the left coast crowd to be distracted from looking at the real content of the pictures.....

Used a Hands Electronics GQ 2000 at 5 Watts along with a Super Tee Tuner and a Kanga Iambic Keyer.

Best DX was OK and SD.

73 - Bill - N8ET

Kanga US

kanga@mail.bright.net

<http://www.bright.net/~kanga/>

419-423-4604

Date: Sun, 30 Apr 2000 10:38:48 -0700
From: k6mw <k6mw@jps.net>
To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [69075] postpone
Message-ID: <390C6FA8.9534C881@jps.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

postpone

Date: Sun, 30 Apr 2000 17:45:15 +0100
From: "KA5T Larry Wise" <lewise@inetport.com>
To: "qrp" <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [69076] 14V SMK-1 PS - More Info
Message-ID: <200004301745.MAA13557@admin.inetport.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Gang:

Here is some more data on the SMK-1 powered by the modified EPS-1 running off of 2 Alkaline Duracells that were new out of the refrigerator yesterday or the day before.....

For reference here is data on the SMK-1 powered by a 4AH gelcell:

SMK-1
 Mode Vin mA-in
 RX 12.34 17.8
 TX 12.31 89.2
 TX power out - 220 mw

Here is the data on the EPS-1 and D cells:

	SMK-1		EPS-1			
Mode	Vin	mA-in	Pout	Vin	mA-out	Pin EFF
RX	13.95	18.7	.261	2.94	165	.485 54.8%
TX	13.95	100.7		1.40	2.70 750	1.50 93.3%

Tx power out 290 mw

Here are some specs for the Duracell D cells:

15000 mAh at 10 ohm to .8V at 70 degF
 The discharge chart shows three curves, 2.2 ohm, 4.7 ohm and 10 ohm.
 The have the following legend in the corner of the chart.

OHMS	mA
2.2	475
4.7	235
10	115

The three curves plot voltage versus hours. They are not linear. The endpoint hours for the three curves at .8V are:

OHMS	HOURS
2.2	~20
4.7	~49
10	~125

These curves are for a single cell of course.

One might guestimate that you could run the SMK-1 on RX for something on the order of a couple hundred of hours....and on transmit for something less than 20 hours.....Of course this is just a SWAG.....:-)

FWIW

Larry KA5T
 Georgetown, TX

Date: Sun, 30 Apr 2000 13:55:39 -0400
From: "Ron Polityka" <wb3aal@talon.net>
To: ". QRP-L" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [69077] Re: Small batteries & Solar power
Message-ID: <003701bfb2cd\$4c314380\$58e508cf@wb3aal>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

I purchased my UNI-Solar USF-5 flexible panel from
VORTEX Batteries. No web page but the e-mail address
is EliVanD@aol.com . They will be at Dayton.

It worked great for me. Check out :
<http://www.n3epa.org/Pages/AT/AT-trips.htm>

Click on:
N2BSC & WB3AAL April 1, 200 trip

Click on:
Life can't get any better, DX with Solar QRP on 15 meters

----- Original Message -----
From: "Jim Hale" <kj5tf@yahoo.com>
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Sent: Sunday, April 30, 2000 11:14 AM
Subject: Small batteries & Solar power

> > Jim:
> >
> > I just re-read this post and would like to know your
> > source of solar panels.
> > I am in the market for the flexible ones and plan to
> > use them to charge a 12
> > volt 4amp/hr gel cell. Let me know your secrets
> > concerning charging rates and
> > controllers. Thanks in advance
> >
> > Dick
>

> Hi- wish I could tell you where these things can be
> found. I dont have one of them.
>
> Instead I have a 5w square panel I bought from West
> Marine when it was on sale several years ago.
>
> If you just want to charge a 4ah battery you might
> consider one of those small panels that sell in JC
> Whitney, and car parts places. They usually sit on the
> dash board and keep the car btry fresh. Yes they are
> pretty low in the watt department, but for a small
> battery pack might be a El-Cheapo way to go?
>
> As for a controler, I don't use them. Well, on my house
> btrys I have the best I could find ! Hi
>
> But on small panels and small btrys just let her ripp!
>
> Monitor the voltage and be sure its not above 14.9
>
> Ideal lead acid voltage is 13.8 chargeing voltage. But
> there is good reason to bring it up another volt. My
> high dollar house btry charge controler has an
> "Equalize" switch. Every now and then you are supposed
> do that, and it allows full charge, and I let the
> voltage climb UP to 15v for 15 minutes or so.
>
> Now, never allow the btry to get warm, or HOT! ;-)
>
> If you want to put a blocking diode in the + chargeing
> line. This will keep the btry from reversing into the
> panel at night and draining.
>
> Or just remember to start charging in the AM, and
> disconnect late afternoon before sunset.
>
> The blocking diode is a good idea tho.. we can forget
> to disconnect! hi hi
>
> If you really want a controler there are afew
> available, but I dont have any info.
>
> Solar is simple - I like to keep it that way :)
>
> Ive been operating with recycled C cell nicads for
> years and years! I never use a controler, and the bats
> never let me down. Hi! And they were used/surplus when
> I got em!

>
 > With C cells I run 700mW and they last a looooong time!
 > never the less, I bring along two sets....
 >
 > I can run 2 watts off C cells for a short time.
 >
 > I got my C cells from American Science Surplus, but
 > there are many surplus companies out there.
 >
 > I think its my "duty" to use the nicads, as if someone
 > dosnt they will be land fill. bummer
 >
 > OH, nicads do not suffer from cold WX as lead acids
 > do! Just like your car btry, any lead acid btry loses
 > 30% ++ of its charge below certain temps!
 >
 > FYBO QRP'ers, are you paying attention?
 >
 > As you know nicads were used in early earth
 > satellites, and in some cases kept on going and going
 > wayyyyy longer then anyone predicted! Dispite extreme
 > changes in temp hour to hour of spaceflight.
 >
 > AND! If one cell goes bad in a string of nicads, its
 > EASY to repair! Try that in a gell cell!
 >
 > Good QRP'ing my friend Jim KJ5TF
 > "All milliwatts, All the time"

72 & 73
 Good DXing

Ron Polityka
 de WB3AAL
 wb3aal@talon.net

vvv Eastern Pennsylvania QRP Web Page vvv
<http://www.n3epa.org>
 Eastern Pennsylvania QRP Club Call
 N3EPA E-mail address: n3epa@talon.net

EPA QRP #1	NJ QRP #179
KL7 QRP # 309	G-QRP # 3031
ARCI QRP # 5318	10 - X #13173
NorCal	Zombie #625
ARS # 380	HI-QRP #153
VA QRP Society #45	

Date: Sun, 30 Apr 2000 11:56:56 -0600
From: "Rod, N0RC" <n0rc@qsl.net>
To: <ogbc@mindspring.com>, "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [69078] Re: First Kit
Message-ID: <014a01bfb2cd\$7f3ff140\$c5101004@compaq>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Ken:

I recommend you spend the money up front and get a good first kit. Consider the DSW series from Small Wonder Labs; the NorCal 40A or SST from Wilderness or one the OHR Kits. All of these kits perform great and you won't have any trouble building them. Instructions with these Kits are IMHO the best in the business.

Building one of these kits now will leave you with a rig that you can enjoy for many years to come. If you get stuck, there is several hundred man years of building experience on this list to help you out.

If I had to pick just on kit to recommend, I couldn't ;-) but I can get it down to two. The DSW series is an excellent value for the money. The DSW is a full featured rig: Full band coverage, 2W out, Keyer, Rit, Audio Frequency readout.... Check it out at www.smallwonderlabs.com

The NC40A has a very nice RX section, sensitive & quiet and the PCB is open and spacious, making it easy to build. It doesn't have a keyer or AFA but those can be added later. Check out the 40A at <http://www.fix.net/jparker/wild.html>

GL & feel free to write if you have specific questions. I've built all the rigs mentioned here.

72/3 Rod, N0RC -- Fort Collins, CO

----- Original Message -----
From: Ken Kirkley <ogbc@mindspring.com>
To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Sent: Saturday, April 29, 2000 8:15 PM

Subject: First Kit

> Hi All,
> I would like some suggestions on an easy to build first QRP kit. I
have
> been reading up on QRP for awhile and would love to try it, but am
not
> sure which kit to go with. Don't want to invest a bundle. Am only
> mediocre with a soldering iron at present.
>

Date: Sun, 30 Apr 2000 14:08:17 EDT
From: N10DL@aol.com
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Subject: [69079] information on DL8GEZ
Message-ID: <c0.31143c2.263dd091@aol.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="US-ASCII"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

had a nice chat with DL8GEZ, Geza in Germany yesterday. Have not been able to find his call in either of the callbooks. Has anyone ever talked with him and set him a QSL card. Could use his address.

Thanks

Aron

N10DL

Bedford, NH

Date: Sun, 30 Apr 2000 11:26:18 PDT
From: "Doug Hendricks" <ki6ds@hotmail.com>
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Subject: [69080] QRPTTF: Baywatch Report, AKA as KI6DS Report
Message-ID: <20000430182618.55925.qmail@hotmail.com>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; format=flowed

Friday night I had to go to Merced to take my daughter and her family out to dinner. We were celebrating my son-in-law getting hired as a Sherriiff's Deputy for Merced County. Great job and we are pleased and happy for them. Of course, I call him Deputy Fife now, and ask where the best donuts are in the county, grin. This severely limited my packing time for QRPTTF on

Saturday. But I did manage to get everything together that I had to look for, and "knew right where the rest of it was", grin. Saturday, the alarm goes off at 6:30. The plan is to meet Dave Fifield, Mike Gipe and Paul Maciel at Sunset Beach around 9:30 AM so we can get on the air around 10:00 AM.

I hop out of bed, (it always amazes JoAnne how easily I get up when I want to go on a "geek" day as she calles it) shave, and get ready. I then start looking for the base to my 20 Ft. fishing pole. Egads, it is not where I thought. 20 minutes later I ask JoAnne if she has seen a 1 and a 1/4" dowel with a nail sticking out the end. She gives that "look" and says what do you mean a 1 and 1/4" dowel? I then say, it is a round stick with a nail sticking out of one end and a plastic pipe fitting on the other. Oh, yes, I did see that. I used it to kill a gopher in the front yard the other day. I put it right in the corner of the garage. I go out, check the corner and sure enough, there it is.

Then it is time to find the logbook. Where are they? I was sure that that they were in that pile under the bench. Nope, then I remembered, ahh, they were in the closet where I put them when I cleaned up. Dang, I hate it when I clean up things, I can't find anything.

Anyway, by the time I got everything found and loaded, JoAnne was standing in the driveway, laughing and saying "If you would have done some planning you would have had everything ready and could have left an hour ago as you planned." Gosh don't you love it when wives do those things? Never mind that I was in Merced at a family dinner instead of packing.

Finally I am on the road at 8:10!! I had planned on leaving at 7:00 AM, so I am behind schedule. Stop in Los Banos for diesel for the truck, then a nice pleasant drive over Pacheco Pass and to 101, then to Highway 29 and finally I arrive in Watsonville. Along the way, I saw lots of farmworkers picking strawberries, lettuce, etc. You would not believe the size of the strawberries this year. Not a cloud in the sky, and a fun drive to the beach.

I pull up to the pay booth at the State Park, (you pay for everything in California!), pay the \$6 entrance fee, and drive down to the beach. There I find Paul Maciel as the only one there. He has his 77 VW camper bus parked right alongside a picnic table area, and it is a great site, except that we are looking right into a 200 foot high cliff rising above us to the east, grin.

Paul and I quickly make a NorCal Doublet using 4 conductor ribbon cable. We use the WE6W feedline, the NF0R #1 Swivel as a center support, and the KK6MC length of 22 feet per side of the doublet (44 ft. total length) Paul suggested using the SD20 pole to measure out 20 feet, and then add 2 feet by guess and by golly. Worked great. We had the antenna made and up in about

10 minutes. This was to be the antenna that we would use for station 1, a K2 with battery. (More about that later).

We got the station on the air about 11:00, what with visiting, drinking a diet pepsi, walking out on the beach, checking out a couple of bikinis, and yes we have pictures to prove it!! Dave Fifield showed next, and he set up on top of the sand dune, and had a perfect view of the ocean.

Mike Gipe and his daughter Jessica were the last to show up, and the crew was ready to go. We all decided that we were going to do a relaxed, fun outing. We were going to operate, yet we were going to share the fellowship of being with friends, which is why I participate in these activities.

I heard Jim AL7FS in there very weak. Also heard Jan N0QT and Paul, NA5N but they were hunting and pouncing and I couldn't get them to stand still long enough to work them. Great to hear them on though. Did not hear KK5KU, the most famous qrper from Ft. Smith. I listened for you Kelsey, but could not find you. I am probably the only qrper that you didn't work, grin.

The equipment that I used was a K2 with CMOS SUPER II keyer, Paul had programmed CQ and our reports for both of us. He had buttons 1 & 2, I had 3 & 4. Worked great. The only problem we had with the K2 was that the battery died after about 3 hours. It was fully charged when we started. Later Eric Swartz stopped by to visit, and we asked him about it. He asked if we had it on low current settings. "Huh??" Then he proceeded to tell me about how to set up the K2 for lower current drain and battery operation. Duh, it is all in the manual, I just forgot about it. Next time I will be sure that I set it up for battery use in the field.

The K2 and the NorCal Doublet worked everything we could hear. Mike Gipe, Paul and I made 67 qso's using it, and we all agreed that it was a fine antenna for portable use. Easy to erect, easy to tear down. We made lots of qsos, had fun and it did the job.

Jim Duffey, Dr. Megacycle has done some research on the loss of ribbon cable for me. Briefly here is the loss in ribbon cable that he has calculated for the various frequencies. Note that these losses are for 100 feet of feedline. We used 25 feet, so our losses were 1/4 of the losses that are in the charts.

Freq.	Attenuation (dB/100ft)
7.000	1.621
14.000	2.489
21.000	3.234
28.000	3.915

What this means is that we were losing about .4 dB at 40 meters, .6 dB at 20 meters, .8 dB at 15 meters and about 1 dB at 10 meters. I can put up

with those losses all day long given the convenience of setting up and operating with a NorCal doublet made from ribbon cable and supported by a SD20 Pole. Roger Hightower and others have already commented on what happens to these poles if you are in wind and have very much weight with your antenna and feedline.

Here is my log:

15 Meters AB0FX

40 meters K7GT, K6UIZ, N6WG, WA9WAC, AD6A

20 Meters AK7Y, W0CQC, AA5B, W5ABQ, W7TAO, AC6KW, NQ7X, N0UR, KK6MC/5, K0EVZ, K7RE, K6STI, K1MG, AK1P

20 qsos, 7 SPC's, 1 very good sunburn, lots of fun talking with Eric Swartz and Russ Dow who stopped by to visit, the bikini babes, flying a kite with Mike Gipe's daughter Jessica, barbecue afterwards at Mike Gipes house, driving 120 miles home after 10:00 at night not fun, but the rest of the day was fabulous. Thanks to Jan, N0QT who is the NorCal contest manager, and Paul, NA5N who thinks up all of these weird themes, and a special thanks to Jim Fitton, W1FMR, who came up with the idea of a qrp "To the Field" contest several years ago. The first one was started and sponsored by the New England QRP Club, and it spawned all of the rest of these fun activities.
72, Doug, KI6DS

Get Your Private, Free E-mail from MSN Hotmail at <http://www.hotmail.com>

Date: Sun, 30 Apr 2000 18:17:10 +0100
From: David Heintzleman <pstrdave@kdsi.net>
To: ve6kbs@agt.net
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [69081] Re: DK9SQ mast - was QRPTTF - Much fun (long)
Message-ID: <390C6A96.C25F58A5@kdsi.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Hi, I use hose clamps above joint to prevent mast from collapsing.
Don't like to try to hold up an inverted vee, I use at QRP, end fed 20 mtr and above half wave end fed zepp, with wires taped to mast - also a 30 mtr quarterwave vertical with 4 radials, ladder line and tuner -

for inverted vee's I like the Portapole (New Wave) aluminum jobs from AES Milwaukee
Dave K8BBM

Date: Sun, 30 Apr 2000 14:28:10 EDT
From: BruceAA5B@aol.com
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Subject: [69082] AA5B QRPTTF results
Message-ID: <64.23ec537.263dd53a@aol.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="US-ASCII"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

As Paul predicted, conditions weren't great (only 1 Q on 10 mtrs, and there were noisy daylight-only condx on 40), and activity seemed low on 15 despite pretty decent propagation there.

Locally, Mother Nature provided plenty of distractions: The birds and wind were so loud at times that I had trouble hearing weak signals; and the strong winds wrapped my 20 mtr drooping dipole around the 40/15 mtr dipole, raising the swr to about 8:1 on 20 (40 and 15 were almost unaffected). Thank goodness for tuners!

BAND QSOs SPCs

40	12	10
20	103	32
15	41	24
10	1	1

Total: 157 QSOs, 67 SPC

Category breakdown:

HO	48
FD	14
WT	55
OC	31
MM	9

Score: 2050 x 67 x 3 = 412,050

Thanks go to NorCal for sponsoring the 'test, and Paul and Jan for handling the logistics. Hope to see everyone from the mountains again in the Fall for QRP Afield -- with a K2, I hope.

-Bruce, AA5B

Date: Sun, 30 Apr 2000 14:28:36 -0400
From: "KW1ND Mike" <kw1nd@endlessenergy.com>
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [69083] Re: Small batteries & Solar power
Message-ID: <002601bfb2d1\$e6fe55c0\$814ba03f@geta>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

For a variety of sizes of quality flexible panels, check out the Uni-Solar line at Solar Electric Inc. at <http://www.solarelectricinc.com/> They've advertised in QST, tho I didn't see their ad in the May issue. For controllers, go to <http://www.seslogic.com/> It's run by a ham, & has had a couple controller projects in QST & the Handbook over the years. I use his basic Micro M (now upgraded tho), and it works just fine. Many on this list use his controllers.

No financial interest, yada yada yada.

73,

Mike Boice, KW1ND
New Gloucester, Maine FN43uw

> I am in the market for the flexible ones and plan to
> use then to charge a 12
> volt 4amphr gel cell. Let me know your secrets
> concerning charging rates and
> controllers. Thanks in advance

Date: Sun, 30 Apr 2000 11:51:09 -0700 (PDT)
From: Craig LaBarge <wb3gck@yahoo.com>
To: qrp-l-mailing-list <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Cc: wb3gck@arrl.net
Subject: [69084] QTTF: WB3GCK/QRP/MM
Message-ID: <20000430185109.15869.qmail@web705.mail.yahoo.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii

I sure had a ball yesterday. I launched my 10-foot

jon boat (aka "The Mean Green Fishin' Machine) in the Schuylkill Canal in Oaks, PA. I worked 20 meters using a NorCal 20 and a homebrew mobile antenna. After four and a half hours, I had 40 QSOs, 19 multipliers, and some sunburn. :-)

I have some more details, pictures, and my log at:

<http://www.qsl.net/wb3gck/>

Thanks to all who managed to hear me. I will have a QSL commemorating this event. If you worked me, just drop me a card (or an email) and I'll send you one. SASE not required.

The beautiful weather here in southeastern PA made it an especially enjoyable day out on the water. Lots of fun!

73, Craig WB3GCK

Do You Yahoo!?

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<http://im.yahoo.com/>

Date: Sun, 30 Apr 2000 15:15:48 -0400
From: John AE5X <ae5x@juno.com>
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Cc: l.sweedy@att.net
Subject: [69085] QRPTTF - AE5X
Message-ID: <20000430.151548.17414.0.ae5x@juno.com>

What an educational weekend! I camped out both Friday and Saturday night. Friday was spent camping with Mike KF2EW who gave me a lesson in how to camp in style. There was me and my backpacking tent and lightweight stove, etc. And then Mike's setup next door to me: a Hilton tent that you could stand up in, complete with a table for his radio gear and a "carpet" and a 2-burner stove! What a contrast! This was at a great location on the Delaware River on the NJ/PA border. Steaks that night and a visit from a ham-to-be friend of mine and a lot of shooting the breeze around the campfire. The next morning we woke up to find a thin layer of

ice on our tents and trucks.

Saturday morning I headed up to Crater Lake and Mike to Sunfish Pond so we could have a 40m QSO for our AT award. Once set up at Crater Lake, I made 3 QRPTTF contacts and found I was trespassing in tick country. Those six-legged, hard to kill, blood-sucking sons of *^%@## were everywhere so I QSYed to another site 10 miles away, which burned up 2 hours of contesting time for me. I was still near water though, camped near a beaver pond at Stokes Forest. No ticks here, but no bikinis either.

Due in part to the geographical QSY, I only managed 24 contacts on 20 & 40m. 40m got very QRNny toward the late afternoon so most of my contacts were on 20m. Rigs were the Norcal 40a and DSW20 with either an inverted V or a ground plane. After waking up Sunday, I hightailed it back to Mike's site for breakfast and antenna dismantling. There's nothing like the smell of bacon and coffee cooked outdoors on a cool clear morning.

The most important lesson I learned was that what works for backpacking a la radio does not necessarily work for a 6 hour contest campout. I'm going to keep Mike's philosophy in mind the next time I update my camping gear and allow myself some creature comforts on future camping trips. Makes all the difference in the world. Thanks for the lesson Mike and thanks much for the good company!

John Harper, AE5X
Ex: AA5YX, KI50W, KA5BBL, VQ9BL
HW-9, OHR-100A/20, NC40A, SST/30, SST/40, DSW/20
Outdoor QRP <http://www.qsl.net/ae5x>

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<http://dl.www.juno.com/get/tagj>.

Date: Sun, 30 Apr 2000 12:26:11 -0700
From: "Ward Hill, N1IE" <w_hill@ns.net>
To: <ki6ds@hotmail.com>, "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [69086] Re: QRPTTF: Baywatch Report, AKA as KI6DS Report
Message-ID: <002601bfb2d9\$f2388160\$710f9fcf@0zpu5>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Well, one has to now ponder. . . .

What with all those guys together.....

What new and great things will be coming from the time spent off the air???

I bet it is almost ready to prototype.....

----- Original Message -----

From: "Doug Hendricks" <ki6ds@hotmail.com>

To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>

Sent: Sunday, April 30, 2000 11:26 AM

Subject: QRPTTF: Baywatch Report, AKA as KI6DS Report

> Friday night I had to go to Merced to take my daughter and her family out to
> dinner. We were celebrating my son-in-law getting hired as a Sherriff's
> Deputy for Merced County. Great job and we are pleased and happy for them.
> Of course, I call him Deputy Fife now, and ask where the best donuts are in
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> Saturday. But I did manage to get everything together that I had to look
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for
> the various frequencies. Note that these losses are for 100 feet of
> feedline. We used 25 feet, so our losses were 1/4 of the losses that are
in
> the charts.

> Freq.	Attenuation (dB/100ft)
> 7.000	1.621
> 14.000	2.489
> 21.000	3.234
> 28.000	3.915

>
> What this means is that we were losing about .4 dB at 40 meters, .6 dB at

> 20 meters, .8 dB at 15 meters and about 1 dB at 10 meters. I can put up
> with those losses all day long given the convenience of setting up and
> operating with a NorCal doublet made from ribbon cable and supported by a
> SD20 Pole. Roger Hightower and others have already commented on what
> happens to these poles if you are in wind and have very much weight with
> your antenna and feedline.
>
> Here is my log:
> 15 Meters AB0FX
> 40 meters K7GT, K6UIZ, N6WG, WA9WAC, AD6A
> 20 Meters AK7Y, W0CQC, AA5B, W5ABQ, W7TAO, AC6KW, NQ7X, N0UR, KK6MC/5,
> K0EVZ, K7RE, K6STI, K1MG, AK1P
>
> 20 qsos, 7 SPC's, 1 very good sunburn, lots of fun talking with Eric
Swartz
> and Russ Dow who stopped by to visit, the bikini babes, flying a kite with
> Mike Gipe's daughter Jessica, barbecue afterwards at Mike Gipes house,
> driving 120 miles home after 10:00 at night not fun, but the rest of the
day
> was fabulous. Thanks to Jan, N0QT who is the NorCal contest manager, and
> Paul, NA5N who thinks up all of these weird themes, and a special thanks
to
> Jim Fitton, W1FMR, who came up with the idea of a qrp "To the Field"
contest
> several years ago. The first one was started and sponsored by the New
> England QRP Club, and it spawned all of the rest of these fun activities.
> 72, Doug, KI6DS
>
> -----
> Get Your Private, Free E-mail from MSN Hotmail at <http://www.hotmail.com>
>

Date: Sun, 30 Apr 2000 13:28:00 +0100
From: CHARLES K BROWN <n4so@juno.com>
To: qrp-1@Lehigh.edu
Subject: [69087] Reverse voltage/over voltage protection
Message-ID: <20000430.132846.14598.9.N4SO@juno.com>

--Mystery solved--

Ref. to hooking up a DC battery backwards-- the
North Georgia QRP club offered the North Georgia
Power Indicator/Guard to provide "over current, reverse
voltage, overvoltage protection", back in October 1999
for voltage monitoring and control.
I use the kit on one of my 14 volt DC supplies. Prototypes can be
mounted in Altoids boxes. Circuit board

measures 1.5 by 2.5 inches.

Ken Brown N4SO
Mobile, AL EM50tk
NorCal-20 at 5 watts
4 ele. yagi

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<http://dl.www.juno.com/get/tagj>.

Date: Sun, 30 Apr 2000 16:15:51 EDT
From: W0rw@aol.com
To: qrp-1@lehigh.edu, DEUTSCHR@aol.com, EBretag@aol.com, Kg5nnick@cs.com,
KD0SU@aol.com, RNBAXTER@aol.com
Subject: [69088] QRPttF at W0RW
Message-ID: <ba.4cc6249.263dee77@aol.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="US-ASCII"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

WOW, Great pile up's and lots of fun...
Using Sierra at 5W on Vertical antenna operating Class FD/LB from the
Florissant Dry/Lake Bed 10 miles north of Cripple Creek, Colorado.
Temperature was about 50F w/sun but with 10-20 knot winds.
It is always Breezie at (LB0), The Las Brisas Observatory, Las Brisas means
the breezes, Elevation 8500 feet. It snowed later that night.
i was using 4 Li-Ion batteries (2.5" Long 'C' cells) thru the entire 6 hours
and they were still at 15 VDC at daysend...
Using a Whiterook miniature bug.
Worked 1 station in FL on 10M, 2 stns on 40M,
5 stns on 15M, and 76 stns on 20M.
Got W0CQC who was ground wave about 50 miles away on 20M,
VE6QRP, NQ5RP, K5KID (on the USS KIDD) on 20M,
N6WG on 40M w/Thunder Storms in the area, they made lots of QRN.
My log looks like the QRP Hall of Fame but i did not even hear NA5N, AL7FS,
KI6DS, WE6W, KK6MC, N0QT or KK5KU, maybe i was on a sub-space frequency.
i took some time out to get my Argo 509 up on SSB for a few minutes and
worked the Submarines and Marconi stations. W9DK on the USS Cobia, KE5TC on
the USS Batfish and W9AA on the German Submarine U505 (i got to go thru it a
long time ago).
i heard some guys in England up on 15M, Band was fairly good for DX.
You can see my operating site at <http://LB0.teuton.org>
Thanks for the call, 72 de W0rw Paul

Date: Sun, 30 Apr 2000 14:32:04 -0600
From: "James R. Duffey" <jamesd1@flash.net>
To: n6wg@earthlink.net
Cc: qrp-1@lehigh.edu
Subject: [69089] QTTF 40 M Answer
Message-ID: <200004302032.PAA06714@bunyip.flash.net>
Mime-version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset="US-ASCII"
Content-transfer-encoding: 7bit

Bob - In light of the conditions and activity here on 40 M I would say that 43 QSOs on 40 M alone is pretty good. I spent 45 minutes or so on 40 M and got 6 contacts to show for it. That is a rate of 8/hr. I worked nearly a rate of 15/hr total for the contest so 40 M is less productive than the other bands, at least here. If you worked 43 QSOs in 6 hours, that would correspond to a rate of 7.2 per hour or so, which is pretty close to my rate on 40 M. I would say you did OK.

This time of year there is lots of storm induced noise on 40 M during the day. It gets worse in the summer of course. During this period in the sunspot cycle there is lots of day time ionization in the D-layer which increases the absorption.

I usually work 40 M in these contests to get the surrounding states which can be hard to get on the higher bands. Also it is about the only way to work into AZ and there are a lot of AZ QRP contesters active so it can be productive, particularly during the Az SQRPs sponsored contests, FYBO and BUBBA.

On the other hand, when I QSYed down to 40 M I would only hear 1 or 2 QSOs between 7035 and 7045. But I almost always got an answer when I called CQ.

I would say you did pretty good for a 40 M only station. - Duffey
KK6MC/5

James R. Duffey KK6MC/5
30 Casa Loma Road
Cedar Crest, NM 87008

Date: Sun, 30 Apr 2000 17:39:26 -0400
From: "Michael Bower - N4NMR" <bowerm@ix.netcom.com>
To: "qrp-1" <qrp-1@lehigh.edu>

Subject: [69090] Ungar 9900 tips?
Message-ID: <069e01bfb2ec\$8f7504a0\$0100a8c0@dadsmachine>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

I purchased an Ungar 9900 soldering station at Timonium. It came with no tips and I have been unable to find anybody who sells them.

Does anybody know of a ready source for Ungar 9900 soldering tips?

TIA

Michael - N4NMR

Date: Sun, 30 Apr 2000 17:40:41 -0400
From: "Michael Bower - N4NMR" <bowerm@ix.netcom.com>
To: "qrp-l" <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [69091] NorCal 40A mods?
Message-ID: <06a601bfb2ec\$c5a341e0\$0100a8c0@dadsmachine>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Is there a good site for mods to the NorCal 40A kit?

I am going to be starting one next week (as soon as it arrives) but would like to know about mods BEFORE I start so I don't have to undo too much if I decide on a mod.

TIA

Michael - N4NMR

Date: Sun, 30 Apr 2000 15:12:30 PDT
From: "Doug Hendricks" <ki6ds@hotmail.com>
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Subject: [69092] Kits: Ft. Smith P-TiCK Picture

Message-ID: <20000430221230.34833.qmail@hotmail.com>

Mime-Version: 1.0

Content-Type: text/plain; format=flowed

Guys, there is a great picture of the new Ft. Smith QRP Group kit. Kelsey Mikel, KK5KU has a great picture of it on the Ft. Smith QRP Group Website at this site.

<http://www.qsl.net/kk5ku/arkieconpic2.html>

Scan down and click on the picture of the P-TiCK right next to Glen Leinweber in the second set of pictures. The picture will come up full size and you can see what the kit looks like. Remember, the Ft. Smith Group is kitting this one for \$10!! Unbelievable. You get all the parts to build a paddle, and a TiCK Keyer!! \$10!! The paddle is adjustable, and works quite well. It is a lot of fun to build, and will work like a charm. If you need a Paddle and Keyer to throw in for working out in the field, this is the one to get. Great price! And yes it does include the TiCK chip. To order send \$12 (\$10 + \$2 S&H) to:

Jay Bromley W5JAY
9505 Bryn Mawr Circle
Fort Smith, AR 72908-9276

And if you want a really great deal, send another \$10 and JayBob will include a VE3DNL Marker Generator kit. If you have been holding off on ordering one of these great kits, now is the time to act. Save a couple of bucks on postage too!! The Ft. Smith QRP Group will use the profits from these kits to fund Arkiecon next year.

While you are at the Ft. Smith QRP Group site, check out the pics of Arkiecon. The Hanging Judge, Kelsey Mikel, did a great job with the pictures, and he did a great job with the web site. Just wish that I could have worked him Saturday in the QRPTTF. Have to be satisfied with hanging out at the beach checking out the babes in bikinis.

I have no financial interest in the Ft. Smith P-TiCK kit. Just want to share the information with the rest of the QRPers.

72, Doug, KI6DS

Get Your Private, Free E-mail from MSN Hotmail at <http://www.hotmail.com>

Date: Sun, 30 Apr 2000 18:14:15 EDT

From: K4NK@aol.com
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Subject: [69093] F/S ten tec
Message-ID: <25.50d26da.263e0a37@aol.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="US-ASCII"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Time to try something new !!! I have a very nice ten tec station . Ten tec Scout with 80,40,20,15,10 meter modules. Plus mic 700c.has NB board installed. AND model 937 matching power supply and 291 matching tuner and 1202 matching wattmeter and 607 keying paddle also matching . Complete station only... \$650 or would consider interesting QRP trade.

Also a very nice MFJ 949E tuner , have box etc....trade for model 971 or \$75 shipped.

Private E-mail only thanks K4NK Les

End of QRP-L Digest 1807

